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	20	22-0	CC1059	1 - FONT	ANIA LA	AWRENCE ET A (E-C		RFIELD F	PROCE	SSING C	ORP	
FV )dele V	Partie (EWG	es & Keys	Docket Entries	Charges, J & Sent	udgments ences	Service Information	Filings Due	Sched Hearings	uled & Trials	Civil Judgments		ishments/ ` ecution
Click here to Click here to				cted Docu		ort Date Ent	Des	cending Ascending	Display	Options:	All Entri	es 🔪
09/06/2022		Doc		- 22-SMC0		Served To - V 00; Service T						
08/17/2022				sued-Circ : 22-SMCC		or VENTURE	TRANSP	PORT, LLC				
06/22/2022		Ame Sec	ended Me ond Ame Filed By:	ZANE THO	<mark>ion Filed</mark> on; Electro OMAS CAC	onic Filing Ce GLE	rtificate o	f Service.				
06/21/2022		Noti <b>F</b>	ce of Car <b>iled By</b> :	aring Filed ncelation of ZANE THO f Of: FONT	Hearing; I		ing Certifi	icate of Se	ervice.			
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02/16/2022			_	l Cancelled d For: 03/2		9:00 AM;MI	CHAEL F	FRANCIS :	STELZEI	R; City of S	t. Louis	
02/07/2022		Ä		ed Entries:		<b>22 - Hearing</b> 9:00 AM;MI			STELZEI	R; City of Si	t. Louis	

https://www.courts.mo.gov/casenet/cases/searchDockets.do

■ Motion to Withdraw

☐ Hearing Continued/Rescheduled

Hearing Continued From: 02/14/2022; 9:00 AM Jury Trial

1/6

**EXHIBIT** 

9/2	20/22, 3:20 FM	ase:	4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1case.neitlexx2-001260/2-200cReasoneie-2 of 418 PageID #: 7
			Motion for Withdrawal; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
			Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM
			On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
			Entry of Appearance Filed
			Entry of Appearance; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
			Filed By: ZANE THOMAS CAGLE
	02/01/2022		Removed to Fed Court
			<u>Order</u>
			REMAND ORDER
	40/45/0004		Matica
	12/15/2021		Notice Defendants Notice to State Court of Removal; Notice of Removal; Exhibit A; Exhibit B; Civil Cover
			Sheet; Original Filing Form; Notice to Plaintiffs Attorney of Removal; Defendants Notice of Corporate Disclosures; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
			Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI
			On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION
	12/09/2021		Jury Trial Scheduled
			Associated Entries: 02/07/2022 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled
			Scheduled For: 02/14/2022; 9:00 AM; MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER; City of St. Louis
			Hearing Continued/Rescheduled
			Hearing Continued From: 01/03/2022; 9:00 AM Jury Trial
	12/08/2021		Motion to Compel
			Motion to Compel; Ex. 1; Ex. 2; Ex. 3; Ex. 4; Ex. 5; Ex. 6; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
			Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM
			On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
		_	
	10/15/2021		Jury Trial Scheduled
			Associated Entries: 12/09/2021 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled
			Scheduled For: 01/03/2022; 9:00 AM; MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER; City of St. Louis
			Hearing Continued/Rescheduled
			Hearing Continued From: 10/25/2021; 9:00 AM Jury Trial
	10/04/2021		Cert Serv Answers Interrog Fil
	10/0 1/2021		Certificate of Service; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
			Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI
			On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION
			Cert Serv of Interrog Filed
			Certificate of Service; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
			Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM
			On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
	00/05/0004		Cont Conv. Door Dow Dred Doo Th
	08/25/2021		Cert Serv Resp Req Prod Doc Th  Cortificate of Service: Electronic Elling Cortificate of Service
			Certificate of Service; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.  Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI
			On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION
	08/11/2021		<u>Order</u>

9/20/22, 3:20 FMase: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1case.neitlead2-00/201/220ccRecordies of 418 PageID #: 8 PROTECTIVE ORDER GRANTED. SO ORDERED: JUDGE MICHAEL STELZER #40716 08/10/2021 Cert Serv Resp Reg Prod Doc Th Certificate of Service; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service. Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Proposed Order Filed Protective Order; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service. Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Motion Filed Motion for Protective Order; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service. Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI Associated Entries: 10/15/2021 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled Scheduled For: 10/25/2021; 9:00 AM; MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER; City of St. Louis ☐ Hearing Continued/Rescheduled Hearing Continued From: 09/07/2021; 9:00 AM Jury Trial 06/25/2021 Cert Serv Resp Req Prod Doc Th Certificate of Service; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service. Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Associated Entries: 07/28/2021 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled Scheduled For: 09/07/2021; 9:00 AM; MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER; City of St. Louis ☐ Hearing Continued/Rescheduled Hearing Continued From: 07/19/2021; 9:00 AM Jury Trial 05/24/2021 Notice of Service Affidavit of Service; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service. Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE 05/10/2021 Jury Trial Scheduled Associated Entries: 06/10/2021 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled Scheduled For: 07/19/2021; 9:00 AM; MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER; City of St. Louis Hearing Continued/Rescheduled Hearing Continued From: 06/07/2021; 9:00 AM Jury Trial Certificate of Service; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service. Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE Corporation Served Document ID - 21-SMOS-1377; Served To - VENTURE EXPRESS LLC; Server - ; Served Date - 27-APR-21; Served Time - 00:00:00; Service Type - Special Process Server; Reason Description - Served

120122, 3.20 FUNC	ise.	4.22-CV-00903-3RC DOC. #. 1986. Tell 2012-0-01 1239/12-20 October 101 410 Fage ID #. 9
		Notice of Service
		Affidavit of Venture LLC; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
		Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM
		On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
		OII BEIIGII OI. I ONTANIA LAWILINGL
0.4/0.6/0.004		Alles Commens Issued
04/26/2021		Alias Summons Issued
		Document ID: 21-SMOS-1377, for VENTURE EXPRESS LLC.
04/22/2021		Alias Summons Requested
		Request for Alias Summons; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
		Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM
		On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
04/15/2021		Answer Filed
		Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporations Answer to Plaintiffs First Amended Petition; Electronic
		Filing Certificate of Service.
		Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI
		On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION
		on bonan on Transless Processing Cold City (1101)
04/07/2021		Certificate of Service
04/01/2021		
		Certificate of Service; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
		Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI
		On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION
04/02/2021		Certificate of Service
		Certificate of Service; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
		Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI
		On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION
03/19/2021		Summ Issd- Circ Pers Serv O/S
		Document ID: 21-SMOS-1085, for VENTURE EXPRESS LLC.
03/17/2021		Answer Filed
		Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporations Answer to Plaintiffs Petition; Electronic Filing Certificate of
		Service.
		Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI
		On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION
		Entry of Appearance Filed
		Entry of Appearance; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service.
		Filed By: JOHN ANDREW MAZZEI
		On Behalf Of: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION
03/16/2021		Note to Clerk eFiling
		Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM
		Notice of Dismissal
		Dismissal of Venture Express Inc Only; Affidavit.
		Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM
		On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
		Stipulation Filed
		Document ID - 21-SMOS-297; Served To - VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.; Server - ; Served Date - 16-MAR-21; Served Time - 00:00:00; Service Type - Other: Reason Description - Other

9/20/22, 3:20	se: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1 விக்க Frid 2020 2020 200 இதை இருகள்க் of 418 PageID #: 10
	☐ Stipulation Filed
	Document ID - 20-SMOS-5678; Served To - VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.; Server - ; Served Date - 16-MAR-21; Served Time - 00:00:00; Service Type - Other; Reason Description - Other
03/11/2021	<ul><li>Note to Clerk eFiling</li><li>NOTE TO CLERK EFILING</li><li>Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM</li></ul>
	Amended Motion/Petition Filed First Amended Petition. Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
03/10/2021	<ul> <li>Notice of Dismissal</li> <li>Notice of Dismissal of Venture Express Inc.</li> <li>Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM</li> <li>On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE</li> <li>⚠ Affidavit Filed</li> </ul>
	Affidavit of Venture Express-3-10-21.  Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM  On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
	Petition: First Amended Petition. Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
03/03/2021	Motion Special Process Server  Motion for Special Processor.  Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM  On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
	Alias Summons Requested Request for Alias Summons. Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM
02/25/2021	Certificate of Service Alias Summons SERVED- Fairfield Processing; Electronic Filing Certificate of Service. Filed By: ZANE THOMAS CAGLE On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
02/22/2021	Notice of Service  Affidavit of Service to Defendant Fairfield.  Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM  On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
	□ Corporation Served  Document ID - 21-SMOS-296; Served To - FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION; Server - ; Served Date - 16-FEB-21; Served Time - 00:00:00; Service Type - Special Process Server; Reason Description - Served; Service Text - RECEIVED BY DANIELA M/ LEGAL ASST
01/29/2021	Motion Special Process Server  Motion for Special Processor.  Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM

9/20/22, 3:20 Oase: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1clase.File2d2209/209/22004Raganie6 of 418 PageID #: 11

	On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
01/28/2021	Alias Summons Issued Document ID: 21-SMOS-297, for VENTURE EXPRESS, INC  Alias Summons Issued Document ID: 21-SMOS-296, for FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION.
01/22/2021	Alias Summons Requested Request for Alias Summons. Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
01/12/2021	Jury Trial Scheduled Associated Entries: 05/10/2021 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled Scheduled For: 06/07/2021; 9:00 AM; MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER; City of St. Louis
12/29/2020	Summ Issd- Circ Pers Serv O/S Document ID: 20-SMOS-5678, for VENTURE EXPRESS, INC  Summ Issd- Circ Pers Serv O/S Document ID: 20-SMOS-5677, for FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORP.
12/21/2020	Filing Info Sheet eFiling Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM  Pet Filed in Circuit Ct  Petition. Filed By: JOHN S APPELBAUM On Behalf Of: FONTANIA LAWRENCE
	Judge Assigned

Case.net Version 5.14.58 Return to Top of Page Released 08/24/2022

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff	) )
VS.	)
	) Cause No.:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION;	)
Serve Registered Agent:	)
Sanford D. Kaufman	)
301 Main Street, Third Floor	) PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL
Danbury CT, 06810	BY JURY ON ALL COUNTS
&	)
	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.	)
Serve Registered Agent:	)
Shawn Applegate	)
131 Industrial Blvd.	)
La Vergne, TN 37086	)
	)
Defendants.	)

#### **PETITION**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff") by and through by and through her attorneys of record and pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules and Rules of Civil Procedure, and for her Petition against Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), and Venture Ex ("Axiom Equities") and Defendant Venture Express, Inc. ("Venture"), and states to this Honorable Court as follows:

#### FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- 1. Plaintiff is an individual, citizen, and resident of Missouri.
- 2. Fairfield is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Connecticut and based upon information and belief Fairfield's principal place of business is in the State of Missouri.

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3. Fairfield may be served through its registered agent, Sanford D. Kaufman at 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Danbury CT, 06810.

- 4. Venture is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Tennessee with its principal place of business in the state of Tennessee.
- Venture may be served through its registered agent, Shawn Applegate at 131
   Industrial Blvd. La Vergne, TN 37086.
- 6. The incident alleged herein occurred on or about December 19, 2019 at between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the loading dock of the premises owned and operated by Fairfield located at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri ("Premises").
- 7. As a corporation, Fairfield acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Fairfield.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Fairfield was acting individually and through its agents, servants, and/or employees, whom were acting within the course and scope of their employment with Fairfield at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 9. Venture is a corporation involved in interstate commerce, and did and does at all times alleged herein avail itself to the benefits of the State of Missouri's highways and roadways to conduct interstate commerce.
- 10. As a corporation Venture acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Venture.

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11. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Venture was acting individually and through its agent, servant, and/or employee, whom was acting within the course and scope of his employment with Venture at the time of the incident alleged herein.

- 12. Venue is proper with this Court pursuant to RSMo. § 508.010 since the negligent actions and omissions alleged herein occurred within St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 13. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action since the incident alleged herein occurred in St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 14. On December 19, 2019, Fairfield owned or controlled the management of 6432 Prescott Ave.; St. Louis, Missouri 643147 ("Premises").
- 15. At all times alleged herein Plaintiff was working on said premises as an employee for ProLogistix.
- 16. At said date and time, Plaintiff was attempting to disconnect a ramp attaching a commercial vehicle owned by Venture from the loading dock attached to Premises.
- 17. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect said ramp, she maintained one foot in the trailer attached to Venture's vehicle and the other on the dock.
- 18. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect the ramp, the driver of said commercial vehicle, and employee of Venture, ("Driver") became distracted and failed to notice that the ramp remained attached and that Plaintiff was still partially inside the vehicle.
- 19. Driver then pulled away from said dock forcing Plaintiff to leap to safety to avoid falling into the gap between the truck and the dock.
- 20. No employee of Fairfield attempted to warn Driver that Plaintiff stood partially within the trailer.

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21. At no point did any employee of Fairfield attempt to stop Driver from pulling away from the dock.

- 22. At no point before Driver pulled away did any employee of Fairfield attempt to warn Plaintiff of the movement of the tractor trailer and/or the hazardous condition being created.
- 23. As Plaintiff leaped from the truck to the dock, she landed hyperextending her left knee and pulling and tearing the ligaments and tendons attached thereto.
- 24. As a direct result of one or more of Defendants' failures Plaintiff sustained damages.
- 25. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence alleged herein, Plaintiff, was caused to suffer serious, permanent, and disabling injuries to her left leg, knee, and the ligaments, muscles, and tendons attached thereto.
- 26. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligent acts and omissions of the Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred past medical expenses in excess of \$40,000.00.
  - 27. Plaintiff will incur further medical expenses in the future.
- 28. That Plaintiff has been caused to suffer painful, permanent and disabling injuries to the aforementioned areas of her body and will continue to suffer from these painful, permanent and disabling injuries in the future as a result of the fall as alleged herein and will need to undergo medical treatment in the future.
- 29. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff's activities and her enjoyment of life has been limited.
- 30. That as a direct and proximate cause of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff required surgical intervention.

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31. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred scarring and disfigurement.

- 32. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has lost past wages.
- 33. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff will suffer future loss of wages.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

## <u>COUNT I</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANTS VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count I of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

34. That the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Driver was acting in the course and scope of his employment with Venture. Thus, at the time of the crash alleged herein Driver was an agent, servant, and/or employee of Venture and as such, Venture is vicariously liable for the actions and omissions of Driver, its agent, servant, and/or employee.

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- 35. At the time of this crash, Driver was an agent, servant and/or employee under the control, right of control, joint and mutual control, or joint and mutual right of control of Venture and as such all of the acts of negligence on his part were committed within the course and scope of his agency and employment with Venture.
- 36. At the time of the incident alleged herein, Venture, through its agents, servants, and employees including, but not limited to Driver were negligent, careless, and breached their duty of care to the general public and Plaintiff on the date alleged herein in one or more of the following respects:
  - a. Failed to have the motor vehicle under proper control;
  - b. Failed to keep a proper lookout and pay attention;
  - c. Operated the tractor while distracted, tired or fatigued;
  - d. Operated the tractor without adequate training, experience, or qualifications;
  - e. Drove while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs;
  - f. Failing to exercise the highest degree of care under the circumstances.
- 37. Each of the negligent acts or omissions by Venture, as alleged herein was a direct and proximate cause of the incident and the resulting injuries and damages to Plaintiff.
- 38. The actions of Venture as alleged herein showed a complete indifference to or conscious disregard for the safety of Plaintiff and other human beings.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

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# <u>COUNT II</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANTS FAIRFIELD PROCESSING.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count II of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

- 39. On February 17, 2019, Fairfield owned, controlled, or possessed Premises where Plaintiff worked as an independent contractor.
- 40. That at the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Fairfield oversaw the work of contracted temporary employees such as Plaintiff and held a responsibility to maintain a reasonably safe working environment.
- 41. That at the time of this incident, Fairfield, through its agents, servants, and employees:
  - a. Failed to adopt or implement policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock.
- 42. In the alternative to and/or in addition to the allegations of paragraph 40, Fairfield:
  - a. Failed to notify its employees, agents, or contractors, of any policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - b. Failed to properly supervise its employees, agents, or contractors working on the loading dock;
  - c. Failed to properly train its employees, agents, or contractors regarding any policies, procedures, or standing orders set in place to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - d. Failed to notify Driver before he pulled away from the dock that Plaintiff was still inside the trailer; and
  - e. Failed to warn Plaintiff that Driver was pulling away from the dock.

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43. That such failures and omissions created a foreseeable likelihood of a harm or

injury.

That in so doing, Fairfield was thereby negligent. 44.

45. That as a direct and proximate result of such negligence, Plaintiff sustained the

damages alleged above.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five

Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants

jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together

with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the

circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division:	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	
REX M BURLISON		Special Process Server 1
Plaintiff/Petitioner:   FONTANIA LAWRENCE	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address:  JOHN S APPELBAUM	Special Process Server 2
I ONTANIA LAWILLINGE	105 FOREST GLADE	Special Process Server 2
Vs.		Special Process Server 3
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORP	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING	(Date File Stamp)
Nature of Suit:	10 N TUCKER BLVD	
CC Pers Injury-Other	SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	
	nal Service Outside the State of Misso Except Attachment Action)	ouri 
The State of Missouri to: FAIRFIELD PROCESSI Alias: C/O SANFORD D KAUFMAN RAGT 301 MAIN STREET 3RD FLOOR DANBURY, CT 06810	NG CORP	
which is attached, and plaintiff/petitioner at the you, exclusive of the d	appear before this court and to file your pleading to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorne above address all within 30 days after service ay of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judghe relief demanded in this action.  29, 2020  Clerk	ney for the of this summons upon
Further Information:		
I certify that:  1. I am authorized to serve process in civil action 2. My official title is 3. I have served the above summons by: (chect delivering a copy of the summons and a leaving a copy of the summons and a copy defendant/respondent with over the age of 15 years who permanent	or Server's Affidavit of Service  ons within the state or territory where the above summ  of County ck one) copy of the petition to the defendant/respondent. py of the petition at the dwelling place or usual abode, a person of the defenda cly resides with the defendant/respondent. a copy of the summons and a copy of the petition to	of the
	(name)	(title).
other: Served at		(address)
	(state), on (date)	
l am: (check one)	Signature of S  before me this	e affiant served the above
	Signature and	Title
Service Fees Summons \$ Non Est \$ Mileage \$(	miles @ \$ per mile)	

See the following page for directions to officer making return on service of summons.

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#### **Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons**

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 17 of 418 PageID #: 22



#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: REX M BURLISON	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	Special Process Server 1
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE	
	vs. IMPERIAL, MO 63052	Special Process Server 3
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORP	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING	(Date File Stamp)
Nature of Suit:	10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	
CC Pers Injury-Other		BA:
	sonal Service Outside the State of (Except Attachment Action)	IVIISSOUTI
The State of Missouri to: VENTURE EXPRES Alias:	SS, INC.	
C/O SHAWN APPLEGATE RAGT 131 INDUSTRIAL BLVD LA VERGNE, TN 37086		
COURT SEAL OF You are summone	d to appear before this court and to file your բ	pleading to the petition, copy of
plaintiff/petitioner a you, exclusive of the	and to serve a copy of your pleading upon the at the above address all within 30 days after some day of service. If you fail to file your pleading for the relief demanded in this action.	ervice of this summons upon
Decembe	er 29, 2020 - T 2	Want -
CITY OF ST LOUISDat		Clerk
Further Information:		
	er's or Server's Affidavit of Service	
My official title is	actions within the state or territory where the above	
leaving a copy of the summons and a defendant/respondent with over the age of 15 years who perman	d a copy of the petition to the defendant/responde a copy of the petition at the dwelling place or usua, a person of the chently resides with the defendant/respondent.	l abode of the defendant's/respondent's family
[_] (for service on a corporation) deliver	ng a copy of the summons and a copy of the petiti (name)	(title).
other:	(13,113)	
Served at		(address)
in County	v, (state), on	(date) at (time).
,	· ——— ·	-
Printed Name of Sheriff or Server	Ciano	ture of Sheriff or Server
	rn to before me this (day)	
	the clerk of the court of which affiant is an office	
	the judge of the court of which affiant is an offi	
(Seal)	authorized to administer oaths in the state in w summons. (use for out-of-state officer)	hich the affiant served the above
·	authorized to administer oaths. (use for court-	appointed server)
	Signat	ture and Title
		···· - · ··· · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Service Fees		
Summons \$		
	_miles @ \$ per mile)	

#### Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 18 of 418 PageID #: 23

#### **Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons**

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 19 of 418 PageID #: 24

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.	)
	) Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION	ON ) Plaintiff Demands Jury Tria
	) On All Counts
	)
And	)
	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.	)
Defendants.	

#### **REQUEST FOR ALIAS SUMMONS**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, by and through her attorneys of record, The Cagle Law Firm, and requests an alias summons be issued on Defendants Fairfield Processing Corporation to Sanford D. Kaufman at 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Danbury CT, 06810, and Venture Express, Inc. to Shawn Applegate at 131 Industrial Blvd., La Vergne, TN 37086.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

By John S. Appelbaym Jr., MO #71766

john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 20 of 418 PageID #: 25



#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STE	1 7FR	Case Number: 2022-CC10591		
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE	vs.	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Ad JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE IMPERIAL, MO 63052	dress:	
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN Nature of Suit:	G CORPORATION	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING 10 N TUCKER BLVD	(Date File Sta	mp)
CC Pers Injury-Other		SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101		
ALIAS		sonal Service Outside the Sacept Attachment Action)	State of Missouri	
The State of Missouri to:	FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN			
C/O SANFORD D KAUFMAN 301 MAIN STREET 3RD FLOO DANBURY, CT 06810				
COURT SEAL OF	which is attached, and to plaintiff/petitioner at the you, exclusive of the da	appear before this court and to file to serve a copy of your pleading up above address all within 30 days any of service. If you fail to file your ple relief demanded in this action.	on the attorney for the after service of this summon	s upon
		or Server's Affidavit of Service		
2. My official title is 3. I have served the a delivering a cop leaving a copy defendant/respover the age of (for service on	bove summons by: (check py of the summons and a co of the summons and a copondent with	opy of the petition to the defendant/res y of the petition at the dwelling place o, a person of resides with the defendant/responden copy of the summons and a copy of the (name)	pondent. r usual abode of the f the defendant's/respondent's	family
Served at			(	address)
in	County,	(state), on	(date) at	_ (time).
	I am: (check one)	before me this (day) ne clerk of the court of which affiant is a ne judge of the court of which affiant is uthorized to administer oaths in the sta ummons. (use for out-of-state officer) uthorized to administer oaths. (use for	an officer. an officer. te in which the affiant served the court-appointed server)	
Service Fees			Signature and Title	
Summons         \$           Non Est         \$           Mileage         \$           Total         \$	(	miles @ \$ per mile) rections to officer making return on servi	ce of summons.	

#### Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 21 of 418 PageID #: 26

#### **Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons**

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 22 of 418 PageID #: 27



### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Ad JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE vs. IMPERIAL, MO 63052	ddress:
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Nature of Suit: CC Personal Injury Other	Court Address:	(Date File Stamp)
CC Pers Injury-Other  ALIAS Summons for	or Personal Service Outside the (Except Attachment Action)	State of Missouri
The State of Missouri to: VENTURE EXPR		
Alias: C/O SHAWN APPLEGATE RAGT 131 INDUSTRIAL BLVD LA VERGNE, TN 37086		
which is attache plaintiff/petitione you, exclusive of taken against you Janua	aned to appear before this court and to file ed, and to serve a copy of your pleading user at the above address all within 30 days of the day of service. If you fail to file your ou for the relief demanded in this action.  Ty 28, 2021  Date	after service of this summons upon
	fficer's or Server's Affidavit of Service	
<ul> <li>2. My official title is</li></ul>	manently resides with the defendant/responde vering a copy of the summons and a copy of t	espondent. or usual abode of the of the defendant's/respondent's family ent. he petition to
other:		
Served atCo	unty, (state), on	(address) (date) at (time).
Printed Name of Sheriff or Serve Subscribed and s I am: (check one	e) the clerk of the court of which affiant is the judge of the court of which affiant i authorized to administer oaths in the summons. (use for out-of-state officer	s an officer. s an officer. tate in which the affiant served the above )
	authorized to administer oaths. (use f	Signature and Title
Service Fees Summons \$ Non Est \$ Mileage \$( Total \$ See the following page	miles @ \$ per mile	a)

#### **Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons**

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 24 of 418 PageID #: 29

## In the **CIRCUIT COURT**

City of St. Louis, Missouri		For File Sta	mp Only	•
FONTANIA LAWRENCE Plaintiff/Petitioner	1/29/2021			
	Date			
'S.	2022-CC10591			
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, Et. Al.	Case number			
Defendant/Respondent	Division	L	_	ı

Comes now Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence		, pursuant
	Requesting Party	
to Local Rule 14, requests the appoint Wyman Tracy Kroft	ntment by the Circuit Clerk of 1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Eric Rubin	1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
to serve the summons and petition in	n this cause on the below named parti	ies.
SERVE: Fairfield Processing Corporation,	SERVE: Venture Express, Inc.	
Name 301 Main Street, Third Floor,	Name 131 Industrial Blvd.,	
Address Danbury CT, 06810	Address La Vergne, TN 37086.	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
SERVE:	SERVE:	
Name	Name	
Address	Address	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
Appointed as requested:		
TOM KLOEPPINGER, Circuit Clerk	John S. Appelbaum Jr.,	
	Attorney/Plaintiff/Petitioner MO #71766	
By	Bar No. 500 North Broadway, Ste	. 1605 St. Louis, MO 6
	Address (314) 241-1700	
Date	Phone No.	

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 25 of 418 PageID #: 30

#### RULE 14 SPECIAL PROCESS SERVERS

- 1. Any person appointed by the Court or the Circuit Clerk to serve process must have a license issued pursuant to this rule to serve process.
- 2. Licenses to serve process shall be issued by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis if the applicant has met the following qualifications:
  - a. Is twenty-one years of age or older;
  - b. Has a high school diploma or an equivalent level of education;
  - c. Has insurance coverage for any errors or omissions occurring in the service of process;
  - d. Has not been convicted, pleaded guilty to or been found guilty of any felony, or of any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude; and,
  - e. Has passed a training course for the service of process which shall be administered by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis.
- 3. Each applicant for a process server license under the provisions of this rule shall provide an affidavit setting forth such person's legal name, current address, any other occupations and current telephone numbers. Licensed process servers shall immediately notify the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis of any change in the above information, and the failure to do so shall constitute good cause for the revocation of such person's license.
- 4. The Sheriff of the City of St. Louis shall maintain a list of persons licensed to serve process pursuant to this rule, and shall make such list available to litigants upon request.
- 5. A photo identification card designed by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis shall be issued in addition to the license. No other identification will be allowed. All licenses must be signed and approved by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis and the Presiding Judge or his designee.
- 6. A license fee recommended by the Sheriff and approved by the Court En Banc shall be charged to cover the costs of compiling and maintaining the list of process servers and for the training of such process servers. The license fees shall be made payable to the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis.

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- 7. A license for service of process issued under this rule may be revoked by the Sheriff with the approval of the Presiding Judge or his designee, for any of the following reasons:
  - a. Misrepresentation of duty or authority;
  - b. Conviction, guilty plea or finding of guilty of any state or federal felony, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
  - c. Improper use of the license;
  - d. Making a false return; or
  - e. Any other good cause.

Provided, no service of process made by an appointed process server with a revoked license shall be void if the Court or Circuit Clerk made the appointment in good faith without knowledge of the license revocation.

- 8. Any person authorized to serve process may carry a concealed firearm as allowed by Section 506.145, RSMo, only while actually engaged in the service of process and only if the person has passed a firearms qualification test approved by a law enforcement agency; provided, however, that any licensed special process server may file a written waiver of the right to carry a concealed firearm and thereby avoid the requirements of firearm training and testing. Any violation of this section shall be considered beyond the scope of the privilege to carry a concealed weapon that is granted by the appointment, and shall constitute good cause for the revocation of the license.
- 9. Applications for the appointment of a special process server shall be made on forms available in the offices of the Sheriff and Circuit Clerk. Orders Appointing special process servers may list more than one licensed server as alternatives.
- 10. The licenses granted pursuant to this rule shall be good for two years. Each person granted a license shall be required to reapply at the expiration of the license and shall be required to provide all the information required in the initial application, including a current police record check.

(Approved 9/28/92; amended 11/23/92; 5/31/95; 12/17/07)

## In the CIRCUIT CC City of St. Louis,

VS.

CIRCUIT COURT City of St. Louis, Missouri		For File Stamp Only
FONTANIA LAWRENCE	Cours City	
Plaintiff/Petitioner	1/29/2021	
	Date	
vs.	2022-CC10591	
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, Et. Al.	Case number	
Defendant/Respondent		
	Division	

Defendant/Respondent REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF PROCESS SERVER Comes now Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence , pursuant Requesting Party to Local Rule 14, requests the appointment by the Circuit Clerk of Wyman Tracy Kroft 1669 Jefferson Street 816.842.9800 Name of Process Server Address Telephone 816.842.9800 Eric Rubin 1669 Jefferson Street Name of Process Server Address Telephone Name of Process Server Address Telephone to serve the summons and petition in this cause on the below named parties. Fairfield Processing Corporation, Venture Express, Inc. Name 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Name 131 Industrial Blvd., Address Danbury CT, 06810 Address La Vergne, TN 37086. City/State/Zip City/State/Zip SERVE: SERVE: Name Name Address Address City/State/Zip City/State/Zip Appointed as requested: TOM KLOEPPINGER, Circuit Clerk John S. Appelbaum Jr., Attorney/Plaintiff/Petitioner MO #71766 Bar No. 500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605 St. Louis, MO 6 Deputy Clerk Address (314) 241-1700 Date Phone No.

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 28 of 418 PageID #: 33

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

State of Missouri	County of Saint Louis (City)	Circuit Court
Case Number: 2022-CC10591		
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE		
vs. Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPO	ORATION, et al.	
D. Kaufman, Registered Agent, 3	& Investigations to be served on Fairfield Processin 01 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Danbury, CT 06810. I, depose and say that on the half day of February at true copy of the Alias Summons for Persont Action) Petition; and Request for Appointment of Person manner marked below:	ENC WWW , 20 Z / at onal Service Outside the
( ) REGISTERED AGENT SERVICE as	E: By servingfor the above-named entity.	
	for the above-named entity.	
() CORPORATE SERVICE: By ser as Legal ASSISTANT A	ving Dan e a Macquard charged for the above-named entity.	_
( ) OTHER SERVICE: As described		
() NON SERVICE: For the reason of	letailed in the Comments below.	
COMMENTS:		
-		
I certify that I have no interest in the which this service was made.	e above action, am of legal age and have proper auth	ority in the jurisdiction in

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on the 17th day of 1200 by the affiant who is personally known to me.

NOTARY PUBLIC

AMY J. CHANTRY NOTARY PUBLIC MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 3/31/2023 **HPS Process Service & Investigations** www.hpsprocess.com 1669 Jefferson Kansas City, MO 64108

Appointed in accordance with State Statutes

(800) 796-9559

PROCESS SERVER #

Our Job Serial Number: 2021003292

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 29 of 418 PageID #: 34



## IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

MILEEST			()
Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STE	LZER	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE		Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address: JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE	
	VS.	IMPERIAL, MO 63052	
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN	G CORPORATION	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING	(Date File Stamp)
Nature of Suit: CC Pers Injury-Other		10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	
ALIAS	S Summons for Per	sonal Service Outside the State of Mis	souri
The State of Missouri to:  C/O SANFORD D KAUFMAN	FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN Alias:	IG CORPORATION	
301 MAIN STREET 3RD FLOO DANBURY, CT 06810			e .
COURT SEAL OF	You are summoned to	appear before this court and to file your pleading t	o the petition, copy of
You are summoned to appear before this court and to file your pleading to the petition, copy of which is attached, and to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney for the plaintiff/petitioner at the above address all within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in this action.  January 28, 2021  Cierk  Cierk			
CITY OF ST LOUIS		i. I homas /co	gyunger
C111 01 31 20010	Date	Clerk*	
	Further Information:		
	Officer's	or Server's Affidavit of Service	
I certify that:		Section Meaning of the Residence of T	
<ol> <li>I am authorized to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where the above summons was served.</li> <li>My official title is Process Sewer of Horror County, County, County (state).</li> <li>I have served the above summons by: (check one)</li> </ol>			
delivering a copy of the summons and a copy of the petition to the defendant/respondent.			
leaving a copy	of the summons and a cor	by of the petition at the dwelling place or usual abode of	the
defendant/rest	nondent with	, a person of the defendant	s/respondent's family
over the age o	of 15 years who permanentl	y resides with the defendant/respondent.	
(for service on	a corporation) delivering a	copy of the summons and a copy of the petition to (name) 1991 ASSISTANT	title).
other:	9		
Served at 301 MC	un Street, 3rd	floor, Danbury, CT06810	(address)
in Hout ord County, Connected (state), on oz 110 ZOZ (date) at 10:10 AW (time).			
Ex Pubou			
Printed Na	me of Sheriff or Server	Signature of She	
	Subscribed and sworn to		month) 2.02 (year).
I am: (check one) the clerk of the court of which affiant is an officer.			
the judge of the court of which affiant is an officer.			
authorized to administer oaths in the state in which the affiant served the above (Seal)			
summons. (use for out-of-state officer)  authorized to administer oaths. (use for court-appointed server)			
Pocetification			
		Signature and Ti	
Service Fees		Signature and the	53
Summons \$			7
Non Est \$			
Mileage \$ (			
Total \$	0 4 4 11 12 12 12 13	irections to officer making return on service of summons.	
	See the following page for 0	mechans to officer making return on service of sufficions	

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#### **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

State of Missouri	County of Saint Louis (City)	Circuit Court
Case Number: 2022-CC10591		
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE		
vs. Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING COF	RPORATION, et al.	
D. Kaufman, Registered Agent    Kulpy   being duly swo   b:   b f.m., executed service b	ce & Investigations to be served on Fairfield Processin, 301 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Danbury, CT 06810. I, day of day of of the Alias Summons for Personent Action) Petition; and Request for Appointment of Pathe manner marked below:	ENC WILL, 20 Z at onal Service Outside the
( ) REGISTERED AGENT SERV as	ICE: By serving for the above-named entity.	
( ) RECORDS CUSTODIAN SEF as	RVICE: By servingfor the above-named entity.	
(1) CORPORATE SERVICE: By as Legal ASSISTANT	Serving Dan ( ) Macquaid Arthonized for the above-named entity.	<del>_</del>
() OTHER SERVICE: As describ		
() NON SERVICE: For the reaso	n detailed in the Comments below.	
COMMENTS:		
Legrify that I have no interest in	the above action, am of legal age and have proper auth	ority in the jurisdiction in

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on the 17th day of 1-201 by the affiant who is personally known to me.

NOTARY PUBLIC

which this service was made.

AMY J. CHANTRY

NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 3/31/2023

PROCESS SERVER # \_\_\_\_\_\_Appointed in accordance with State Statutes

HPS Process Service & Investigations www.hpsprocess.com 1669 Jefferson Kansas City, MO 64108 (800) 796-9559

Our Job Serial Number: 2021003292

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## IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

<b>大湖</b>		7
Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address: JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE /s. IMPERIAL, MO 63052	
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING	(Date File Stamp)
Nature of Suit: CC Pers Injury-Other	10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	
ALIAS Summons for	Personal Service Outside the State of Mi (Except Attachment Action)	ssouri
TAIDEIL D DDOCE	SSING CORPORATION	1
The State of Missouri to: FAIRFIELD PROCES Alias: C/O SANFORD D KAUFMAN RAGT 301 MAIN STREET 3RD FLOOR DANBURY, CT 06810	SSING CORPORATION	W.
court seal of You are summoned	to appear before this court and to file your pleading	to the petition, copy of
You are summoned to appear before this court and to file your pleading to the petition, copy of which is attached, and to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney for the plaintiff/petitioner at the above address all within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in this action.  January 28, 2021  CITY OF ST LOUIS		
CITY OF ST LOUIS	Clerk	11-0
Further Information:	Ololik	
	er's or Server's Affidavit of Service	
I certify that:	of Sol Solver Statistical Section	
1. I am authorized to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where the above summons was served.  2. My official title is		
Subscribed and sworn to before me this		
the judge of the court of which affiant is an officer.		
authorized to administer oaths in the state in which the affiant served the above		
(Seal) summons. (use for out-of-state officer)		
authorized to administer oaths. (use for court-appointed server)		
D Procession		
	Signature and	Title
Service Fees Summons \$		1-2
Non Est \$ miles @ \$ per mile)		
Mileage \$ (miles @ \$ per fille)  Total \$		
T	for directions to officer making return on service of summon	

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#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.	)
	) Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORA	TION )
	) Plaintiff Demands Jury Tria
	On All Counts
	)
And	)
	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.	)
Defendants	. )

#### **REQUEST FOR ALIAS SUMMONS**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, by and through her attorneys of record, The Cagle Law Firm, and requests an alias summons be issued on Defendant Venture Express, Inc. to Shawn Applegate at 304 Robert Rose Dr., Murfreesboro, TN 37129.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO #71766 john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

Attorneys for Plaintiff

For File Stamp Only

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# In the CIRCUIT COURT City of St. Louis, Missouri

Date

City of St. Louis, Missouri	Louis Cut	
FONTANIA LAWRENCE Plaintiff/Petitioner	1/29/2021	
	Date	
rs.	2022-CC10591	
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, Et. Al.	Case number	
Defendant/Respondent	Division	

REQUEST FOR APPOINT	<u>MENT OF PROCESS SERV</u>	<u>/ER</u>
Comes now Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence		, pursuant
•	esting Party	· ·
to Local Rule 14, requests the appointment		
Wyman Tracy Kroft	1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Eric Rubin	1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
to serve the summons and petition in this	cause on the below named parties.	
SERVE:	SERVE:	
Venture Express, Inc.	_	
Name 304 Robert Rose Dr.	Name	
Address Murfreesboro, TN 37129	Address	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
SERVE:	SERVE:	
Name	Name	
Address	Address	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
Appointed as requested:		
TOM KLOEPPINGER, Circuit Clerk	John S. Appelbaum Jr.,	
•	Attorney/Plaintiff/Petitioner MO #71766	
Bv	Bar No.	
Deputy Clerk	500 North Broadway, Ste. 160	05 St. Louis, MO 6

Address (314) 241-1700

Phone No.

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#### RULE 14 SPECIAL PROCESS SERVERS

- 1. Any person appointed by the Court or the Circuit Clerk to serve process must have a license issued pursuant to this rule to serve process.
- 2. Licenses to serve process shall be issued by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis if the applicant has met the following qualifications:
  - a. Is twenty-one years of age or older;
  - b. Has a high school diploma or an equivalent level of education;
  - c. Has insurance coverage for any errors or omissions occurring in the service of process;
  - d. Has not been convicted, pleaded guilty to or been found guilty of any felony, or of any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude; and,
  - e. Has passed a training course for the service of process which shall be administered by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis.
- 3. Each applicant for a process server license under the provisions of this rule shall provide an affidavit setting forth such person's legal name, current address, any other occupations and current telephone numbers. Licensed process servers shall immediately notify the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis of any change in the above information, and the failure to do so shall constitute good cause for the revocation of such person's license.
- 4. The Sheriff of the City of St. Louis shall maintain a list of persons licensed to serve process pursuant to this rule, and shall make such list available to litigants upon request.
- 5. A photo identification card designed by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis shall be issued in addition to the license. No other identification will be allowed. All licenses must be signed and approved by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis and the Presiding Judge or his designee.
- 6. A license fee recommended by the Sheriff and approved by the Court En Banc shall be charged to cover the costs of compiling and maintaining the list of process servers and for the training of such process servers. The license fees shall be made payable to the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis.

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- 7. A license for service of process issued under this rule may be revoked by the Sheriff with the approval of the Presiding Judge or his designee, for any of the following reasons:
  - a. Misrepresentation of duty or authority;
  - b. Conviction, guilty plea or finding of guilty of any state or federal felony, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
  - c. Improper use of the license;
  - d. Making a false return; or
  - e. Any other good cause.

Provided, no service of process made by an appointed process server with a revoked license shall be void if the Court or Circuit Clerk made the appointment in good faith without knowledge of the license revocation.

- 8. Any person authorized to serve process may carry a concealed firearm as allowed by Section 506.145, RSMo, only while actually engaged in the service of process and only if the person has passed a firearms qualification test approved by a law enforcement agency; provided, however, that any licensed special process server may file a written waiver of the right to carry a concealed firearm and thereby avoid the requirements of firearm training and testing. Any violation of this section shall be considered beyond the scope of the privilege to carry a concealed weapon that is granted by the appointment, and shall constitute good cause for the revocation of the license.
- 9. Applications for the appointment of a special process server shall be made on forms available in the offices of the Sheriff and Circuit Clerk. Orders Appointing special process servers may list more than one licensed server as alternatives.
- 10. The licenses granted pursuant to this rule shall be good for two years. Each person granted a license shall be required to reapply at the expiration of the license and shall be required to provide all the information required in the initial application, including a current police record check.

(Approved 9/28/92; amended 11/23/92; 5/31/95; 12/17/07)

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff	) ) )
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION;	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10391
&	
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC. Defendants.	)

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SHAWN APPLEGATE

- I, Shawn Applegate being first duly sworn and upon my oath, state and swear as follows:
- 1. I am over eighteen years of age, I am competent to testify, of sound mind, and I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this Affidavit.
  - 2. I am the chief legal officer and general counsel for Venture Express, Inc.
- 3. Upon review of said records and investigation, I have determined that to the best of my knowledge and belief that on December 19, 2019:
  - a. Venture Express Inc. had no company trucks travelling to the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri with the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri as its final destination;
  - b. Venture Express Inc. had no company drivers travelling to the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri with the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri as his/her final destination;
  - c. Venture Express Inc. had no customers located in the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri; and
    - d. Venture Express Inc. has no relationship with Fairfield Processing which

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might lead a truck owned by Venture Express Inc. and operated by one of its drivers to be on the premises of Fairfield Processing on said date.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAITH NOT.

SHAWN APPLEGATE

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me on this / day of March, 2021.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE, )	
Plaintiff )	
vs.	
)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION; )	
Serve Registered Agent:	
Sanford D. Kaufman	
301 Main Street, Third Floor	PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL
Danbury CT, 06810	BY JURY ON ALL COUNTS
&	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC )	
Serve Registered Agent:	
Dennis Rweikiza,	
10211 E Countryside Cir.	
Wichita, KS 67207	
Defendants.	

#### FIRST AMENDED PETITION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff") by and through by and through her attorneys of record and pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules and Rules of Civil Procedure, and for her Petition against Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), and Defendant Venture Express, Inc. ("Venture"), and states to this Honorable Court as follows:

#### **FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS**

- 1. Plaintiff is an individual, citizen, and resident of Missouri.
- 2. Fairfield is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Connecticut and based upon information and belief Fairfield's principal place of business is in the State of Missouri.
- 3. Fairfield may be served through its registered agent, Sanford D. Kaufman at 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Danbury CT, 06810.

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- 4. Venture is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Kansas with its principal place of business in the state of Kansas.
- 5. Venture may be served through its registered agent, Dennis Rweikiza at 10211 E Countryside Cir. Wichita, KS 67207.
- 6. The incident alleged herein occurred on or about December 19, 2019 at between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the loading dock of the premises owned and operated by Fairfield located at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri ("Premises").
- 7. As a corporation, Fairfield acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Fairfield.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Fairfield was acting individually and through its agents, servants, and/or employees, whom were acting within the course and scope of their employment with Fairfield at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 9. Venture is a corporation involved in interstate commerce, and did and does at all times alleged herein avail itself to the benefits of the State of Missouri's highways and roadways to conduct interstate commerce.
- 10. As a corporation Venture acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Venture.

- 11. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Venture was acting individually and through its agent, servant, and/or employee, whom was acting within the course and scope of his employment with Venture at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 12. Venue is proper with this Court pursuant to RSMo. § 508.010 since the negligent actions and omissions alleged herein occurred within St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 13. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action since the incident alleged herein occurred in St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 14. On December 19, 2019, Fairfield owned or controlled the management of 6432 Prescott Ave.; St. Louis, Missouri 643147 ("Premises").
- 15. At all times alleged herein Plaintiff was working on said premises as an employee for ProLogistix.
- 16. At said date and time, Plaintiff was attempting to disconnect a ramp attaching a commercial vehicle owned by Venture from the loading dock attached to Premises.
- 17. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect said ramp, she maintained one foot in the trailer attached to Venture's vehicle and the other on the dock.
- 18. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect the ramp, the driver of said commercial vehicle, and employee of Venture, ("Driver") became distracted and failed to notice that the ramp remained attached and that Plaintiff was still partially inside the vehicle.
- 19. Driver then pulled away from said dock forcing Plaintiff to leap to safety to avoid falling into the gap between the truck and the dock.
- 20. No employee of Fairfield attempted to warn Driver that Plaintiff stood partially within the trailer.

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21. At no point did any employee of Fairfield attempt to stop Driver from pulling away from the dock.

- 22. At no point before Driver pulled away did any employee of Fairfield attempt to warn Plaintiff of the movement of the tractor trailer and/or the hazardous condition being created.
- 23. As Plaintiff leaped from the truck to the dock, she landed hyperextending her left knee and pulling and tearing the ligaments and tendons attached thereto.
- 24. As a direct result of one or more of Defendants' failures Plaintiff sustained damages.
- 25. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence alleged herein, Plaintiff, was caused to suffer serious, permanent, and disabling injuries to her left leg, knee, and the ligaments, muscles, and tendons attached thereto.
- 26. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligent acts and omissions of the Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred past medical expenses in excess of \$40,000.00.
  - 27. Plaintiff will incur further medical expenses in the future.
- 28. That Plaintiff has been caused to suffer painful, permanent and disabling injuries to the aforementioned areas of her body and will continue to suffer from these painful, permanent and disabling injuries in the future as a result of the fall as alleged herein and will need to undergo medical treatment in the future.
- 29. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff's activities and her enjoyment of life has been limited.
- 30. That as a direct and proximate cause of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff required surgical intervention.

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- 31. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred scarring and disfigurement.
- 32. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has lost past wages.
- 33. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff will suffer future loss of wages.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

# <u>COUNT I</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANTS VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count I of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

34. That the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Driver was acting in the course and scope of his employment with Venture. Thus, at the time of the crash alleged herein Driver was an agent, servant, and/or employee of Venture and as such, Venture is vicariously liable for the actions and omissions of Driver, its agent, servant, and/or employee.

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- 35. At the time of this crash, Driver was an agent, servant and/or employee under the control, right of control, joint and mutual control, or joint and mutual right of control of Venture and as such all of the acts of negligence on his part were committed within the course and scope of his agency and employment with Venture.
- 36. At the time of the incident alleged herein, Venture, through its agents, servants, and employees including, but not limited to Driver were negligent, careless, and breached their duty of care to the general public and Plaintiff on the date alleged herein in one or more of the following respects:
  - a. Failed to have the motor vehicle under proper control;
  - b. Failed to keep a proper lookout and pay attention;
  - c. Operated the tractor while distracted, tired or fatigued;
  - d. Operated the tractor without adequate training, experience, or qualifications;
  - e. Drove while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs;
  - f. Failing to exercise the highest degree of care under the circumstances.
- 37. Each of the negligent acts or omissions by Venture, as alleged herein was a direct and proximate cause of the incident and the resulting injuries and damages to Plaintiff.
- 38. The actions of Venture as alleged herein showed a complete indifference to or conscious disregard for the safety of Plaintiff and other human beings.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

# COUNT II NEGLIGENCE AGAINST DEFENDANTS FAIRFIELD PROCESSING.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count II of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

- 39. On February 17, 2019, Fairfield owned, controlled, or possessed Premises where Plaintiff worked as an independent contractor.
- 40. That at the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Fairfield oversaw the work of contracted temporary employees such as Plaintiff and held a responsibility to maintain a reasonably safe working environment.
- 41. That at the time of this incident, Fairfield, through its agents, servants, and employees:
  - a. Failed to adopt or implement policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock.
- 42. In the alternative to and/or in addition to the allegations of paragraph 40, Fairfield:
  - a. Failed to notify its employees, agents, or contractors, of any policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - b. Failed to properly supervise its employees, agents, or contractors working on the loading dock;
  - c. Failed to properly train its employees, agents, or contractors regarding any policies, procedures, or standing orders set in place to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - d. Failed to notify Driver before he pulled away from the dock that Plaintiff was still inside the trailer; and
  - e. Failed to warn Plaintiff that Driver was pulling away from the dock.

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43. That such failures and omissions created a foreseeable likelihood of a harm or

injury.

44. That in so doing, Fairfield was thereby negligent.

45. That as a direct and proximate result of such negligence, Plaintiff sustained the

damages alleged above.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five

Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants

jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together

with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the

circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWREI	NCE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	
		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCES	SING CORPORATION	)	
Et. Al.		)	
		)	
	Defendants.	)	

#### RULE 67.02(a) DISMISSAL OF VENTURE EXPRESS INC. WITHOUT PREJUDICE

COMES NOW Plaintiff by and through her attorneys of record and dismisses only Defendant Venture Express Inc., without prejudice pursuant to Rule 67.02(a). Said dismissal in no way impacts allegations against Venture Express LLC or Fairfield Processing.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

By

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO #71766 john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605 St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738 Attorneys for Plaintiff

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE, )	
,	
Plaintiff )	
vs.	
)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION; )	
Serve Registered Agent:	
Sanford D. Kaufman	
301 Main Street, Third Floor	PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL
Danbury CT, 06810	<b>BY JURY ON ALL COUNTS</b>
&	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC )	
Serve Registered Agent:	
Dennis Rweikiza,	
10211 E Countryside Cir.	
Wichita, KS 67207	
Defendants.	

#### FIRST AMENDED PETITION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff") by and through by and through her attorneys of record and pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules and Rules of Civil Procedure, and for her Petition against Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), and Defendant Venture Express, Inc. ("Venture"), and states to this Honorable Court as follows:

#### **FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS**

- 1. Plaintiff is an individual, citizen, and resident of Missouri.
- 2. Fairfield is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Connecticut and based upon information and belief Fairfield's principal place of business is in the State of Missouri.
- 3. Fairfield may be served through its registered agent, Sanford D. Kaufman at 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Danbury CT, 06810.

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- 4. Venture is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Kansas with its principal place of business in the state of Kansas.
- 5. Venture may be served through its registered agent, Dennis Rweikiza at 10211 E Countryside Cir. Wichita, KS 67207.
- 6. The incident alleged herein occurred on or about December 19, 2019 at between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the loading dock of the premises owned and operated by Fairfield located at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri ("Premises").
- 7. As a corporation, Fairfield acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Fairfield.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Fairfield was acting individually and through its agents, servants, and/or employees, whom were acting within the course and scope of their employment with Fairfield at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 9. Venture is a corporation involved in interstate commerce, and did and does at all times alleged herein avail itself to the benefits of the State of Missouri's highways and roadways to conduct interstate commerce.
- 10. As a corporation Venture acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Venture.

- 11. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Venture was acting individually and through its agent, servant, and/or employee, whom was acting within the course and scope of his employment with Venture at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 12. Venue is proper with this Court pursuant to RSMo. § 508.010 since the negligent actions and omissions alleged herein occurred within St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 13. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action since the incident alleged herein occurred in St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 14. On December 19, 2019, Fairfield owned or controlled the management of 6432 Prescott Ave.; St. Louis, Missouri 643147 ("Premises").
- 15. At all times alleged herein Plaintiff was working on said premises as an employee for ProLogistix.
- 16. At said date and time, Plaintiff was attempting to disconnect a ramp attaching a commercial vehicle owned by Venture from the loading dock attached to Premises.
- 17. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect said ramp, she maintained one foot in the trailer attached to Venture's vehicle and the other on the dock.
- 18. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect the ramp, the driver of said commercial vehicle, and employee of Venture, ("Driver") became distracted and failed to notice that the ramp remained attached and that Plaintiff was still partially inside the vehicle.
- 19. Driver then pulled away from said dock forcing Plaintiff to leap to safety to avoid falling into the gap between the truck and the dock.
- 20. No employee of Fairfield attempted to warn Driver that Plaintiff stood partially within the trailer.

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- 21. At no point did any employee of Fairfield attempt to stop Driver from pulling away from the dock.
- 22. At no point before Driver pulled away did any employee of Fairfield attempt to warn Plaintiff of the movement of the tractor trailer and/or the hazardous condition being created.
- 23. As Plaintiff leaped from the truck to the dock, she landed hyperextending her left knee and pulling and tearing the ligaments and tendons attached thereto.
- 24. As a direct result of one or more of Defendants' failures Plaintiff sustained damages.
- 25. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence alleged herein, Plaintiff, was caused to suffer serious, permanent, and disabling injuries to her left leg, knee, and the ligaments, muscles, and tendons attached thereto.
- 26. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligent acts and omissions of the Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred past medical expenses in excess of \$40,000.00.
  - 27. Plaintiff will incur further medical expenses in the future.
- 28. That Plaintiff has been caused to suffer painful, permanent and disabling injuries to the aforementioned areas of her body and will continue to suffer from these painful, permanent and disabling injuries in the future as a result of the fall as alleged herein and will need to undergo medical treatment in the future.
- 29. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff's activities and her enjoyment of life has been limited.
- 30. That as a direct and proximate cause of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff required surgical intervention.

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31. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred scarring and disfigurement.

- 32. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has lost past wages.
- 33. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff will suffer future loss of wages.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

# <u>COUNT I</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANTS VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count I of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

34. That the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Driver was acting in the course and scope of his employment with Venture. Thus, at the time of the crash alleged herein Driver was an agent, servant, and/or employee of Venture and as such, Venture is vicariously liable for the actions and omissions of Driver, its agent, servant, and/or employee.

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- 35. At the time of this crash, Driver was an agent, servant and/or employee under the control, right of control, joint and mutual control, or joint and mutual right of control of Venture and as such all of the acts of negligence on his part were committed within the course and scope of his agency and employment with Venture.
- 36. At the time of the incident alleged herein, Venture, through its agents, servants, and employees including, but not limited to Driver were negligent, careless, and breached their duty of care to the general public and Plaintiff on the date alleged herein in one or more of the following respects:
  - a. Failed to have the motor vehicle under proper control;
  - b. Failed to keep a proper lookout and pay attention;
  - c. Operated the tractor while distracted, tired or fatigued;
  - d. Operated the tractor without adequate training, experience, or qualifications;
  - e. Drove while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs;
  - f. Failing to exercise the highest degree of care under the circumstances.
- 37. Each of the negligent acts or omissions by Venture, as alleged herein was a direct and proximate cause of the incident and the resulting injuries and damages to Plaintiff.
- 38. The actions of Venture as alleged herein showed a complete indifference to or conscious disregard for the safety of Plaintiff and other human beings.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

Electronically Filed - City of St. Louis - March 11, 2021 - 09:50 AM

# COUNT II NEGLIGENCE AGAINST DEFENDANTS FAIRFIELD PROCESSING.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count II of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

- 39. On February 17, 2019, Fairfield owned, controlled, or possessed Premises where Plaintiff worked as an independent contractor.
- 40. That at the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Fairfield oversaw the work of contracted temporary employees such as Plaintiff and held a responsibility to maintain a reasonably safe working environment.
- 41. That at the time of this incident, Fairfield, through its agents, servants, and employees:
  - a. Failed to adopt or implement policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock.
- 42. In the alternative to and/or in addition to the allegations of paragraph 40, Fairfield:
  - a. Failed to notify its employees, agents, or contractors, of any policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - b. Failed to properly supervise its employees, agents, or contractors working on the loading dock;
  - c. Failed to properly train its employees, agents, or contractors regarding any policies, procedures, or standing orders set in place to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - d. Failed to notify Driver before he pulled away from the dock that Plaintiff was still inside the trailer; and
  - e. Failed to warn Plaintiff that Driver was pulling away from the dock.

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43. That such failures and omissions created a foreseeable likelihood of a harm or

injury.

44. That in so doing, Fairfield was thereby negligent.

45. That as a direct and proximate result of such negligence, Plaintiff sustained the

damages alleged above.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five

Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants

jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together

with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the

circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWI	RENCE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	
		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROC	ESSING CORPORATION	)	
Et. Al.		)	
		)	
	Defendants.	)	

#### RULE 67.02(a) DISMISSAL OF VENTURE EXPRESS INC. WITHOUT PREJUDICE

COMES NOW Plaintiff by and through her attorneys of record and dismisses only Defendant Venture Express Inc., *without* prejudice pursuant to Rule 67.02(a). Said dismissal in no way impacts allegations against Venture Express LLC or Fairfield Processing.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

Ву\_\_\_\_\_

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO #71766 john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**

COMES NOW John A. Mazzei, Brown & James, P.C., and hereby enters his appearance on behalf of Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

#### **BROWN & JAMES, P.C.**

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 17th day of March, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

$/_{\rm S}/$ .	John A.	Mazzei	
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JAM/llw 25650639.1

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 58 of 418 PageID #: 63

STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

# <u>DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S</u> <u>ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S PETITION</u>

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Answer to Plaintiff's Petition, states as follows:

#### **FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS**

- 1. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 1 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 2. Defendant admits it is a foreign corporation organized in the State of Connecticut with its principal place of business in the State of Connecticut. Defendant denies the remaining allegation in paragraph 2 of Plaintiff's Petition.
  - 3. Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 4. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 4 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 5. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 5 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
  - 6. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of Plaintiff's Petition.

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- 7. The allegations contained in paragraph 7 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 7, and therefore denies same.
- 8. The allegations contained in paragraph 8 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 8, and therefore denies same.
- 9. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 9 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 10. The allegations contained in paragraph 10 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 10, and therefore denies same.
- 11. The allegations contained in paragraph 11 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 11, and therefore denies same.

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- 12. The allegations contained in paragraph 12 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies same.
- 13. The allegations contained in paragraph 13 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies same.
- 14. Defendant admits that on or about December 19, 2019, it leased and conducted business at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63147 ("Premises"). Defendant denies the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 14 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 15. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix upon information and belief. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 15, and therefore denies same.
- 16. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 16 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 17. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 17 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 18. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 18 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 19. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 19 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 20. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 20 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 21. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 21 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.

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22. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 22 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.

- 23. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 23 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 24. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 24 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 25. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 25 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 26. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 26 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 27. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 27 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 28. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 28 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 29. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 29 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 30. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 30 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 31. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 31 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 32. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 32 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 33. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 33 of Plaintiff's Petition.

# COUNT I NEGLIGENCE AGAINST DEFENDANT VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.

This Defendant makes no Answer to the allegations contained in Count I of Plaintiff's Petition for the reason that Count I is directed against Defendant Venture Express, Inc., against whom judgment is prayed and no judgment is prayed against this Defendant. However, should it be construed that any of the allegations in Count I are directed against this Defendant, then this Defendant denies each and every one of those allegations.

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# <u>COUNT II</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> <u>AGAINST DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING</u>

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), and for Count II of Plaintiff's Petition, hereby incorporates its responses to paragraphs 1-33 as if fully stated herein, and states as follows:

- 39. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, it leased the Premises where Plaintiff was an employee of ProLogistix upon information and belief. Defendant has insufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 39 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 40. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix upon information and belief. The remaining allegations contained in paragraph 40 are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits its duties are determined by Missouri law.
- 41. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 41 of Plaintiff's Petition, and all subparts thereto.
- 42. Defendant denies the allegations contained in subparts a, b, and c of paragraph 42. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 42 of Plaintiff's Petition, including subparts d and e, and therefore denies same.
  - 43. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 43 of Plaintiff's Petition.
  - 44. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 44 of Plaintiff's Petition.
  - 45. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 45 of Plaintiff's Petition.

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#### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

46. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that Plaintiff's Petition fails to state a claim.

- 47. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries were sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were the direct and proximate result of Plaintiff's carelessness, negligence, and/or comparative fault.
- 48. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were caused by or contributed to be caused by other individuals or entities outside this Defendant's control.
- 49. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that pursuant to §490.715 R.S.Mo, effective August 28, 2017, Plaintiff is limited to introduce at trial only the evidence of the actual cost of medical care, which is defined as the sum of money not to exceed the dollar amounts paid by or on behalf of Plaintiff plus any remaining dollar amount necessary to satisfy the financial obligation for medical care by a health care provider after adjustments or contractual discounts, price reductions, or write-offs by any person or entity.
- 50. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant reserves the right to raise additional affirmative defenses as discovery progresses in this matter.

WHEREFORE, having fully answered and responded to Plaintiff's Petition, Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation prays to be dismissed with its cost herein expended, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

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Respectfully submitted,

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 17th day of March, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/llw 25653197.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 65 of 418 PageID #: 70



#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division:		Case Number: 2022-CC10591		
MICHAEL FRANCIS STE	LZER			Special Process Server 1
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE		Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/A JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE	ddress:	Special Process Server 2
	VS.	IMPERIAL, MO 63052		Special Process Server 3
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN	G CORPORATION	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING		(Date File Stamp)
Nature of Suit:		10 N TUCKER BLVD		
CC Pers Injury-Other		SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101		
Sı		nal Service Outside the Sta xcept Attachment Action)	ate of Missou	ri
The State of Missouri to:	VENTURE EXPRESS LL	-		
C/O DENNIS RWEIKIZA RAG 10211 E COUNTYSIDE CIR WICHITA, KS 67207	Alias: T			
COURT SEAL OF	which is attached, and plaintiff/petitioner at the you, exclusive of the da	appear before this court and to file to serve a copy of your pleading us above address all within 30 days by of service. If you fail to file your se relief demanded in this action.	upon the attorney after service of t	for the his summons upon ent by default will be
CITY OF ST LOUIS	Date		Clerk	11-Jac
	Further Information:	or Server's Affidavit of Service		
2. My official title is 3. I have served the a delivering a cop leaving a copy defendant/respover the age of (for service on	bove summons by: (check py of the summons and a co of the summons and a cop condent with f 15 years who permanently a corporation) delivering a	opy of the petition to the defendant/re y of the petition at the dwelling place , a person resides with the defendant/responde copy of the summons and a copy of the	espondent. or usual abode of a finite of the defendant's ent. the petition to	the /respondent's family
_		(name)		(title).
Served at				 (address)
in	County,	(state), on	(date) at	·
	I am: (check one)	before me this (day) ne clerk of the court of which affiant is ne judge of the court of which affiant i uthorized to administer oaths in the s ummons. (use for out-of-state officer uthorized to administer oaths. (use for	s an officer. s an officer. tate in which the at )	fiant served the above
Service Fees			Orginature and Title	·
Summons \$ Non Est \$ Mileage \$	(	miles @ \$ per mile	e)	

See the following page for directions to officer making return on service of summons.

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#### **Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons**

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its Objections to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories and Objections to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr. The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 2nd day of April, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 68 of 418 PageID #: 73

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 2nd day of April, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 25650607.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 69 of 418 PageID #: 74

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its First Interrogatories to Plaintiff and First Request for Production of Documents to Plaintiff in Word Format via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 7th day of April, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 70 of 418 PageID #: 75

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 7th day of April, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 25777953.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 71 of 418 PageID #: 76

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	) )
VS.	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.,	)
Defendants.	) )

# DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED PETITION

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Answer to Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, states as follows:

#### **FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS**

- 1. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 1 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 2. Defendant admits it is a foreign corporation organized in the State of Connecticut with its principal place of business in the State of Connecticut. Defendant denies the remaining allegation in paragraph 2 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 3. Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 4. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 4 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 5. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 5 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

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- 6. Defendant admits that on or about December 19, 2019, it leased, operated, and conducted business at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63147 ("Premises"), which contained a loading dock. Defendant denies the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 6 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 7. The allegations contained in paragraph 7 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 7, and therefore denies same.
- 8. The allegations contained in paragraph 8 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 8, and therefore denies same.
- 9. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 9 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 10. The allegations contained in paragraph 10 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 10, and therefore denies same.

- 11. The allegations contained in paragraph 11 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 11, and therefore denies same.
- 12. The allegations contained in paragraph 12 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies same.
- 13. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 13 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 14. Defendant admits that on or about December 19, 2019, it leased and controlled the operation of its business at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63147 ("Premises"). Defendant denies the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 14 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 15. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix pursuant to a contract between Defendant and ProLogistix. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 15, and therefore denies same.
- 16. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 16 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 17. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 17 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

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18. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 18 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

- 19. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 19 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 20. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 20 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 21. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 21 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 22. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 22 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 23. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 23 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 24. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 24 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 25. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 25 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 26. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 26 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 27. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 27 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 28. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 28 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 29. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 29 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

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30. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 30 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

- 31. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 31 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 32. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 32 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 33. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 33 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

# <u>COUNT I</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANT VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.

This Defendant makes no Answer to the allegations contained in Count I of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition for the reason that Count I is directed against Defendant Venture Express, Inc., against whom judgment is prayed and no judgment is prayed against this Defendant. However, should it be construed that any of the allegations in Count I are directed against this Defendant, then this Defendant denies each and every one of those allegations.

# <u>COUNT II</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), and for Count II of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, hereby incorporates its responses to paragraphs 1-33 as if fully stated herein, and states as follows:

39. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, it leased, possessed, and controlled the operation of its business at the Premises, where Plaintiff was an employee of ProLogistix pursuant to a contract between Defendant and ProLogistix. Defendant has insufficient

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information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 39 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

- 40. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix pursuant to a contract between Defendant and ProLogistix. The remaining allegations contained in paragraph 40 are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits its duties are determined by Missouri law.
- 41. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 41 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and all subparts thereto.
- 42. Defendant denies the allegations contained in subparts a, b, and c of paragraph 42. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 42 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, including subparts d and e, and therefore denies same.
- 43. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 43 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 44. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 44 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 45. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 45 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

#### AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

46. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that Plaintiff's First Amended Petition fails to state a claim.

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- 47. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries were sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were the direct and proximate result of Plaintiff's carelessness, negligence, and/or comparative fault.
- 48. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were caused by or contributed to be caused by other individuals or entities outside this Defendant's control.
- 49. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that pursuant to §490.715 R.S.Mo, effective August 28, 2017, Plaintiff is limited to introduce at trial only the evidence of the actual cost of medical care, which is defined as the sum of money not to exceed the dollar amounts paid by or on behalf of Plaintiff plus any remaining dollar amount necessary to satisfy the financial obligation for medical care by a health care provider after adjustments or contractual discounts, price reductions, or write-offs by any person or entity.
- 50. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that Plaintiff's claims are barred by the exclusive provisions of the Workers' Compensation Statutes of the State of Missouri and, further, Plaintiff was a statutory employee of this Defendant at the time of the incident in accordance with the applicable statutes and case law that Plaintiff was on Defendant's premises for the purpose of performing duties and acts which would have been performed by Defendant's own employees if it had not been for a contract of services between Defendant and Plaintiff's employer and, therefore, Plaintiff's action is barred and the Court does not have subject matter jurisdiction over this action.
- 51. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that pursuant to §537.067 R.S.Mo (amended 2005), if Defendant is found to bear less than fifty-one percent (51%) of fault, then Defendant shall only be responsible for the percentage of the judgment for which Defendant

is determined to be responsible by the trier of fact, if any, and Defendant will not be liable for the fault of another Defendant or for payment of the proportionate share of another Defendant.

52. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant reserves the right to rely upon such other additional defenses as may become available or appear subsequently in this case, including during the course of discovery proceedings, and hereby reserves the right to amend this Answer to assert any such defenses.

WHEREFORE, having fully answered and responded to Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation prays to be dismissed with its cost herein expended, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM 25759195.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 80 of 418 PageID #: 85

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)	
Plaintiff	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591	
VS.	)	
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPO	) Division: RATION )	
	) Plaintiff Demands Jury Tr	ia
	On All Counts	
. 1	)	
And	)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.	)	
Defenda	ents.	

#### **REQUEST FOR ALIAS SUMMONS**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, by and through her attorneys of record, The Cagle Law Firm, and states the following requests an alias summons be issued on Defendant Venture Express, LLC. to Dennis Rweikiza Ragt at 10211 E. Countryside Cir. Wichita KS 67207.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO #71766 john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	Special Process Server 1
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address: JOHN S APPELBAUM 500 N BROADWAY SUITE 1605 ST. LOUIS, MO 63102	Special Process Server 2 Special Process Server 3
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Nature of Suit: CC Pers Injury-Other	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING 10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	(Date File Stamp)
Alias Summons for Personal Service Outside the State of Missouri		

Alias	Summons for Persona (Excep	al Service Outside of Attachment Action)	the State of Missouri	
The State of Missouri to:	VENTURE EXPRESS LLC			
C/O DENNIS RWEIKIZA RAG 10211 E COUNTYSIDE CIR WICHITA, KS 67207	Alias:			
COURT SEAL OF	which is attached, and to se plaintiff/petitioner at the abo	rve a copy of your plead ve address all within 30 service. If you fail to file ief demanded in this act	to file your pleading to the pet ing upon the attorney for the days after service of this sum your pleading, judgment by de ion.  Thomas Hoeppun Clerk	mons upon efault will be
	Date Further Information:		Clerk	)——
		erver's Affidavit of Ser	vice	
2. My official title is	pove summons by: (check one) by of the summons and a copy the summons and a copy the summons and a copy the summons by: (check one) the summons and a copy of the summon	of of of the petition to the defend he petition at the dwelling p, a podes with the defendant/resport the summons and a cop (name)	place or usual abode of the erson of the defendant's/respondent.  by of the petition to	(state). ent's family (title).
			(date) at	, ,
	I am: (check one)	erk of the court of which affi dge of the court of which aff ized to administer oaths in ons. (use for out-of-state o	iant is an officer. the state in which the affiant serv fficer) use for court-appointed server)	(year).
Service Fees			Signature and Title	
Summons         \$           Non Est         \$           Mileage         \$           Total         \$	ee the following page for directio		r mile) on service of summons.	

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#### **Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons**

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

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#### **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

State of Missouri County of Saint Louis (City) Circuit Court

Case Number: 2022-CC10591

Plaintiff/Petitioner:

**FONTANIA LAWRENCE** 

Defendant/Respondent:

FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, et al.

Received by HPS Process Service & Investigations to be served on Venture Express, LLC c/o Dennis Rweikiza Ragt, 10211 East Countryside Circle, Wichita, KS 67207.

I, GRACE HAZELL, being duly sworn, depose and say that on the 27th day of April, 2021 at 4:45 pm, i:

Served the within named establishment by delivering a true copy of Alias Summons for Personal Service Outside the State of Missouri; and First Amended Petition to Dennis Rweikiza Ragt, Owner at the address of 10211 East Countryside Circle, Wichita, KS 67207.

I am over the age of eighteen, and have no interest in the above action.

**GRACE HAZELL** Process Server

> **HPS Process Service & Investigations** www.hpsprocess.com 1669 Jefferson Kansas City, MO 64108 (800) 796-9559

Our Job Serial Number: HAT-2021009253

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on the by the affiant who is personally known to me

NOTARY PUBLIC

CHRISTINA WALLER Notary Public - State of Kansas

right © 1992-2021 Database Services, Inc. - Process Server's Toolbox V8.2a

My Appt Expires April 23, 2022

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 84 of 418 PageID #: 89

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,		)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING (	CORPORATION	)	Division:
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.		)	
	Defendants.	)	

#### **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that Copies of: (1) Plaintiff's Objections and Answers to Fairfield Processing's First Interrogatories; (2 Plaintiff's Objections and Answers to Fairfield Processing's Requests for Production; (3) Responsive documents in possession of Plaintiff's counsel; and (4) this Certificate of Service were sent via electronic mail to the attorney of record indicated below on the 5<sup>h</sup> day of May, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

Respectfully Submitted, THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: john@caglellc.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 85 of 418 PageID #: 90

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

State of Missouri

County of Saint Louis (City)

Circuit Court

Case Number: 2022-CC10591

Plaintiff/Petitioner:

FONTANIA LAWRENCE

Defendant/Respondent:

FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, et al.

Received by HPS Process Service & Investigations to be served on Venture Express, LLC c/o Dennis Rweikiza Ragt, 10211 East Countryside Circle, Wichita, KS 67207.

I GRACE HAZELL, being duly sworn, depose and say that on the 27th day of April, 2021 at 4:45 pm, I:

Served the within named establishment by delivering a true copy of Alias Summons for Personal Service Outside the State of Missouri; and First Amended Petition to Dennis Rweikiza Ragt, Owner at the address of 10211 East Countryside Circle, Wichita, KS 67207.

I am over the age of eighteen, and have no interest in the above action.

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on the by the affiant who is personally known to me

NOTARY PUBLIC

**GRACE HAZELL** Process Server

**HPS Process Service & Investigations** www.hpsprocess.com 1669 Jefferson Kansas City, MO 64108 (800) 796-9559

Our Job Serial Number: HAT-2021009253

CHRISTINA WALLER | Notary Public - State of Kansasy right @ 1992-2021 Database Services, Inc. - Process Server's Toolbox V8.2a CHRISTINA WALLER

My Appt. Expires April 23, 2022



### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

More		-	
Judge or Division:	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	Special Process Server 1	
MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER		Special Process Server 1	
Plaintiff/Petitioner:	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address:		
FONTANIA LAWRENCE	JOHN S APPELBAUM	Special Process Server 2	
	500 N BROADWAY		
	SUITE 1605		
VS.	ST. LOUIS, MO 63102	Special Process Server 3	
Defendant/Respondent:	Court Address:	(Date File Stamp)	
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION	CIVIL COURTS BUILDING		
Nature of Suit:	10 N TUCKER BLVD		
CC Pers Injury-Other	SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101		
Alias Summons for Personal Service Outside the State of Missouri			
(Except Attachment Action)			
The State of Missouri to: VENTURE EXPRESS LL	.c		

Alias	(Except Attachment Action)
The State of Missouri to:	VENTURE EXPRESS LLC Alias:
C/O DENNIS RWEIKIZA RAG 10211 E COUNTYSIDE CIR WICHITA, KS 67207	
COURT SEAL OF	You are summoned to appear before this court and to file your pleading to the petition, copy of which is attached, and to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney for the plaintiff/petitioner at the above address all within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in this action.  April 26, 2021  Date  Clerk
	Officer's or Server's Affidavit of Service
<ol> <li>My official title is</li></ol>	serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where the above summons was served.  Serve of Serve County, Count
(Seal)	County, Kansas (state), on Harth-ZI (date) at Hube (time).  Signature of Sheriff or Server Subscribed and sworn to before me this (day) (month) (year).  I am: (check one) the clerk of the court of which affiant is an officer.  the judge of the court of which affiant is an officer.  authorized to administer oaths in the state in which the affiant served the above summons. (use for out-of-state officer)  authorized to administer oaths. (use for court-appointed server)  Signature and Title
Service Fees Summons \$	(miles @ \$per mile)  See the following page for directions to officer making return on service of summons.

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### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its First Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 89 of 418 PageID #: 94

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 26141386.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 90 of 418 PageID #: 95

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 91 of 418 PageID #: 96

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 26141386.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 92 of 418 PageID #: 97

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) Division 1 )
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED )
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.,	, )
Defendants.	) )

## <u>DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S</u> <u>MOTION FOR AGREED PROTECTIVE ORDER</u>

COMEW NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Motion for Agreed Protective Order, states as follows:

- 1. This case arises from an alleged incident involving Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, whom was allegedly injured on property leased by Defendant.
- 2. Plaintiff has propounded Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents to Defendant in the above-captioned matter.
- 3. Some of Plaintiff's Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents seek information that is confidential and proprietary to Defendant.
- 4. Defendant has a legitimate business interest in protecting and safeguarding against the disclosure of such information to its commercial competitors.
- 5. Based on the formal discovery propounded by Plaintiff to Defendant, and in consideration of additional future discovery likely to be sought from Defendant by Plaintiff,

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Defendant requests the protection of a formal Protective Order to prevent the dissemination of such confidential and proprietary information to Defendant's commercial competitors.

6. Plaintiff's counsel has no objection to the proposed Protective Order attached hereto as "Exhibit A".

WHEREFORE, Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation prays the Court, for good cause shown and by agreement, enter the Protective Order attached hereto as "Exhibit A", and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/	John A.	Маттеі	
, ,,	0 0 1 11 1 11		

JAM 26272084.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 94 of 418 PageID #: 99

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) Division 1 ) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
and	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Upon Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation's Motion for Agreed Protective Order, the Court hereby enters this Protective Order regarding Confidential Information ("Protective Order") governing the disclosure during pretrial discovery and the subsequent handling of trade secret information, proprietary information, other confidential commercial, financial, or personal information, and documents containing any such information (hereinafter collectively referred to as "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION") as follows:

#### 1. Initial Designation.

1.1 Produced Documents. A party producing documents that it believes constitute or contains CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall produce copies bearing a label that contains (or includes) language substantially identical to the following:

#### "CONFIDENTIAL"

This label shall be affixed in a manner that does not obliterate or obscure the contents of the copies. As used herein, the term "documents" includes all writings, other media on which

information is recorded, and other tangible things subject to production under Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 58. Claims of confidentiality will be made only with respect to documents to which the asserting party has a good faith belief and are legally entitled to protection from discovery and disclosure under Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 56.01(c) and applicable case law.

- 1.2 Interrogatory Answers. If a party answering an Interrogatory believes that its Answer contains CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, it shall set forth its Answer in a separate document that is produced and designated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION in the same manner as a produced document under subparagraph 1.1. The Answers to Interrogatories should make reference to the separately produced document containing the Answer, but such document should not be attached to the Interrogatories.
- 1.3 Inspection of Documents. In the event a party elects to produce files and records for inspection and the requesting party elects to inspect them, no designation of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION need be made in advance of the inspection. For purposes of such inspection, all material produced shall be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. If the inspecting party selects specified documents to be copied, the producing party shall designate CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION in accordance with subparagraph 1.1 at the time the copies are produced.
- 1.4 Deposition Transcripts. After the receipt of a deposition transcript, a party may inform the other parties to the action of the portions of the transcript that it wishes to designate as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. A deposition transcript in its entirety is to be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION for twenty-one (21) days after receipt. If no designation is made within twenty-one (21) days of receipt, the deposition transcript shall not be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. All parties in possession of a copy of a

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designated deposition transcript shall appropriately mark it as containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

- 1.5 Multipage Documents. A party may designate all pages of an integrated multipage document, including a deposition transcript and Interrogatory Answers, as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION by placing the label specified in subparagraph 1.1 on the first page of the document. If a party wishes to designate only certain portions of an integrated, multipage document as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, it should designate such portions immediately below the label on the first page of the document and place the label specified in subparagraph 1.1 on each page of the document containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.
- 1.6 Objections to Designations. Any party objecting to an initial designation of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, including objections to portions of multipage documents, shall notify the designating party within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of the designation. Any objection shall be made in good faith. The objecting and the designating party shall promptly confer in an attempt to resolve their differences. If the designating and objecting parties are unable to resolve their differences, the designating party shall have fourteen (14) days from the receipt of the objection to file with the Court a Motion for Protective Order. All documents initially designated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall continue to be subject to this Order unless and until the Court rules otherwise. If a designating party elects not to make a Motion for Protective Order with respect to documents to which an objection has been made, it shall be deemed to have withdrawn its designation, and it shall produce copies of such documents without the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION designation if so requested.
- **2. Custody.** During the pendency of this litigation and for ninety (90) days after the conclusion of this litigation, all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and any and all copies,

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extracts and summaries thereof, including memoranda relating thereto, shall be retained by the receiving party in the custody of counsel of record, or by persons to whom disclosure is authorized under subparagraph 4.1, or by the Judge and Jury. Paragraph 6 addresses in more detail handling of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION after the conclusion of this litigation.

#### 3. Handling Prior to Trial.

- 3.1 Authorized Disclosures. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be disclosed by the receiving party only to the following persons, either after having obtained a written acknowledgment from such person that he or she has been advised of the existence and terms of this Protective Order and agrees to be bound by it, or after having provided to such person written notice and instructions regarding the existence and terms of this Protective Order and receiving in return such person's agreement to be bound by it:
  - a. Counsel for the parties, including their associates, clerks, and secretarial and clerical personnel;
  - b. Qualified persons taking testimony involving such information, and necessary stenographic, videotape and clerical personnel;
  - c. Experts and their staff who are consulted by counsel for a party;
  - d. Parties to the litigation, including their employees; and
  - e. The Judge and his or her designated staff.

Such disclosures are authorized only to the extent necessary to prosecute or defend this litigation. Before disclosing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION to any authorized person who is a competitor (or an employee of a competitor) of the designating party, the party wishing to make such disclosure shall give at least fourteen (14) days' notice in writing to the designating party, stating the names and addresses of the person(s) to whom the disclosure will be made, and identifying with particularity the documents to be disclosed. If, within the 14-day period, a Motion is filed objecting to the proposed disclosure, disclosure is not authorized unless and until the Court orders otherwise.

- disclosed to any person other than in the manner authorized by this Protective Order, the party or person responsible for the disclosure, and any other party or person who is subject to this Order and learns of such disclosure, shall immediately bring such disclosure to the attention of the designating party. Without prejudice to other rights and remedies of the designating party, the responsible party or person shall make every effort to obtain the return of the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and to prevent further disclosure on its own part or on the part of the person who was the unauthorized recipient of such information.
- 3.3 Court Filings. In the event any CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION must be filed with the Court prior to trial, it shall be filed in a sealed envelope at the expense of the filing party and marked on the outside with the title of this action, an identification of each document within and a statement substantially in the following form:

SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER – This envelope containing the above identified material filed by [name of party] is not to be opened nor the contents thereof be displayed or revealed except as provided for in the Protective Order or by Court Order, or by agreement of the parties.

This provision is applicable to briefs, memoranda, and other filings that quote, summarize or describe CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. This provision is not applicable to Pleadings as defined in Missouri Supreme Court Rule 55.01.

- 4. **Handling During Trial.** CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION that is subject to this Order may be marked and used as trial exhibits by either party, subject to terms and conditions as imposed by the Trial Court upon application by the designating party.
- 5. **Handling After Trial.** Within 90 days of the conclusion of this litigation, the designating party may request that any or all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION be returned to the designating party. After receiving a request to return, the receiving party, at its option, may destroy CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION instead of returning it to the designating party, but must so notify the designating party. The request for return shall specifically identify the documents or things to be returned if return of less than all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION is requested. The attorney for the receiving party shall collect, assemble, and return within 60 days all such CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, including all copies, extracts, and summaries thereof in the possession of the receiving party, its counsel or other authorized recipients, but not including copies, extracts, or summaries that contain or constitute the attorney's work product. If requested by the designating party within 90 days of the conclusion of the litigation, all copies, extracts or summaries that contain or constitute the attorney's work product shall be destroyed and the attorney for the receiving party shall certify in writing that all such copies, extracts, and summaries Receipt of returned CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be have been destroyed. acknowledged in writing if such acknowledgment is requested. Any CONFIDENTIAL

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INFORMATION not timely requested to be returned or destroyed shall no longer be the subject of this protective order.

6. **No Implied Waivers**. The entry of this Order shall not be interpreted as a waiver of the right to object, pursuant to the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, to the furnishing of information in response to discovery requests or to object to a requested inspection of documents for facilities. Neither the agreement to, or the taking of any action in accordance with the provisions of this Protective Order, nor the failure to object thereto, shall be interpreted as a waiver of any claim or position or defense in this action, or any other actions.

SO ORDERED, tr	ns aay or	, 2021
By the Court:		
Dy the Count.	JUDGE	

JAM 26272091.1

IN THE CI	RCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI
FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	AUG 1 1 2021
Plaintiff,	) 22 <sup>ND</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE BY
VS.	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	Division 1 )  JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
and	, )
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.,	ENTERED
Defendants.	AUG 1 1 2021
Defendants.	PROTECTIVE ORDER

Upon Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation's Motion for Agreed Protective Order, the Court hereby enters this Protective Order regarding Confidential Information ("Protective Order") governing the disclosure during pretrial discovery and the subsequent handling of trade secret information, proprietary information, other confidential commercial, financial, or personal information, and documents containing any such information (hereinafter collectively referred to as "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION") as follows:

#### 1. Initial Designation.

1.1 Produced Documents. A party producing documents that it believes constitute or contains CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall produce copies bearing a label that contains (or includes) language substantially identical to the following:

#### "CONFIDENTIAL"

This label shall be affixed in a manner that does not obliterate or obscure the contents of the copies. As used herein, the term "documents" includes all writings, other media on which information is recorded, and other tangible things subject to production under Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 58. Claims of confidentiality will be made only with respect to documents to which the asserting party has a good faith belief and are legally entitled to protection from discovery and disclosure under Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 56.01(c) and applicable case law.

- 1.2 Interrogatory Answers. If a party answering an Interrogatory believes that its Answer contains CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, it shall set forth its Answer in a separate document that is produced and designated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION in the same manner as a produced document under subparagraph 1.1. The Answers to Interrogatories should make reference to the separately produced document containing the Answer, but such document should not be attached to the Interrogatories.
- 1.3 Inspection of Documents. In the event a party elects to produce files and records for inspection and the requesting party elects to inspect them, no designation of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION need be made in advance of the inspection. For purposes of such inspection, all material produced shall be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. If the inspecting party selects specified documents to be copied, the producing party shall designate CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION in accordance with subparagraph 1.1 at the time the copies are produced.
- party may inform the other parties to the action of the portions of the transcript that it wishes to designate as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. A deposition transcript in its entirety is to be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION for twenty-one (21) days after receipt. If no designation is made within twenty-one (21) days of receipt, the deposition transcript shall not be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. All parties in possession of a copy of a

designated deposition transcript shall appropriately mark it as containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

- 1.5 Multipage Documents. A party may designate all pages of an integrated multipage document, including a deposition transcript and Interrogatory Answers, as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION by placing the label specified in subparagraph 1.1 on the first page of the document. If a party wishes to designate only certain portions of an integrated, multipage document as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, it should designate such portions immediately below the label on the first page of the document and place the label specified in subparagraph 1.1 on each page of the document containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.
- of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, including objections to portions of multipage documents, shall notify the designating party within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of the designation. Any objection shall be made in good faith. The objecting and the designating party shall promptly confer in an attempt to resolve their differences. If the designating and objecting parties are unable to resolve their differences, the designating party shall have fourteen (14) days from the receipt of the objection to file with the Court a Motion for Protective Order. All documents initially designated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall continue to be subject to this Order unless and until the Court rules otherwise. If a designating party elects not to make a Motion for Protective Order with respect to documents to which an objection has been made, it shall be deemed to have withdrawn its designation, and it shall produce copies of such documents without the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION designation if so requested.
- 2. Custody. During the pendency of this litigation and for ninety (90) days after the conclusion of this litigation, all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and any and all copies,

extracts and summaries thereof, including memoranda relating thereto, shall be retained by the receiving party in the custody of counsel of record, or by persons to whom disclosure is authorized under subparagraph 4.1, or by the Judge and Jury. Paragraph 6 addresses in more detail handling of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION after the conclusion of this litigation.

#### 3. Handling Prior to Trial.

- 3.1 Authorized Disclosures. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be disclosed by the receiving party only to the following persons, either after having obtained a written acknowledgment from such person that he or she has been advised of the existence and terms of this Protective Order and agrees to be bound by it, or after having provided to such person written notice and instructions regarding the existence and terms of this Protective Order and receiving in return such person's agreement to be bound by it:
  - a. Counsel for the parties, including their associates, clerks, and secretarial and clerical personnel;
  - b. Qualified persons taking testimony involving such information, and necessary stenographic, videotape and clerical personnel;
  - c. Experts and their staff who are consulted by counsel for a party;
  - d. Parties to the litigation, including their employees; and
  - e. The Judge and his or her designated staff.

Such disclosures are authorized only to the extent necessary to prosecute or defend this litigation. Before disclosing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION to any authorized person who is a competitor (or an employee of a competitor) of the designating party, the party wishing to make such disclosure shall give at least fourteen (14) days' notice in writing to the designating party, stating the names and addresses of the person(s) to whom the disclosure will be made, and identifying with particularity the documents to be disclosed. If, within the 14-day period, a Motion is filed objecting to the proposed disclosure, disclosure is not authorized unless and until the Court orders otherwise.

- disclosed to any person other than in the manner authorized by this Protective Order, the party or person responsible for the disclosure, and any other party or person who is subject to this Order and learns of such disclosure, shall immediately bring such disclosure to the attention of the designating party. Without prejudice to other rights and remedies of the designating party, the responsible party or person shall make every effort to obtain the return of the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and to prevent further disclosure on its own part or on the part of the person who was the unauthorized recipient of such information.
- 3.3 Court Filings. In the event any CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION must be filed with the Court prior to trial, it shall be filed in a sealed envelope at the expense of the filing party and marked on the outside with the title of this action, an identification of each document within and a statement substantially in the following form:

SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER – This envelope containing the above identified material filed by [name of party] is not to be opened nor the contents thereof be displayed or revealed except as provided for in the Protective Order or by Court Order, or by agreement of the parties.

This provision is applicable to briefs, memoranda, and other filings that quote, summarize or describe CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. This provision is not applicable to Pleadings as defined in Missouri Supreme Court Rule 55.01.

- 4. Handling During Trial. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION that is subject to this Order may be marked and used as trial exhibits by either party, subject to terms and conditions as imposed by the Trial Court upon application by the designating party.
- 5. Handling After Trial. Within 90 days of the conclusion of this litigation. the designating party may request that any or all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION be returned to the designating party. After receiving a request to return, the receiving party, at its option, may destroy CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION instead of returning it to the designating party, but must so notify the designating party. The request for return shall specifically identify the documents or things to be returned if return of less than all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION is requested. The attorney for the receiving party shall collect, assemble, and return within 60 days all such CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, including all copies, extracts, and summaries thereof in the possession of the receiving party, its counsel or other authorized recipients, but not including copies, extracts, or summaries that contain or constitute the attorney's work product. If requested by the designating party within 90 days of the conclusion of the litigation, all copies, extracts or summaries that contain or constitute the attorney's work product shall be destroyed and the attorney for the receiving party shall certify in writing that all such copies, extracts, and summaries have been destroyed. Receipt of returned CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be acknowledged in writing if such acknowledgment is requested. Any CONFIDENTIAL

INFORMATION not timely requested to be returned or destroyed shall no longer be the subject of this protective order.

6. No Implied Waivers. The entry of this Order shall not be interpreted as a waiver of the right to object, pursuant to the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, to the furnishing of information in response to discovery requests or to object to a requested inspection of documents for facilities. Neither the agreement to, or the taking of any action in accordance with the provisions of this Protective Order, nor the failure to object thereto, shall be interpreted as a waiver of any claim or position or defense in this action, or any other actions.

so ORDERED, this day of Association, 2021.

y the Court:

By the Court:

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### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 25th day of August, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 25th day of August, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 26384653.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 110 of 418 PageID #: 115

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its Answers to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 111 of 418 PageID #: 116

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 4th day of October, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 26568904.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

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FONTANIA LAWRENCE,		)	
Pl	aintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	D
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CC	RPORATION	)	Division:
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.		)	
	efendants.	)	

## **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that Copies of: (1) Plaintiff's Supplemental Interrogatory to Fairfield Processing; and (2) this Certificate of Service were sent via electronic mail to the attorney of record indicated below on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021, in Microsoft Word and PDF Format.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchana@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

Respectfully Submitted, THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: john@caglellc.com Attorneys for Plaintiff Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 113 of 418 PageID #: 118

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWREN	CE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	
		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESS	ING CORPORATION	)	
		)	
And		)	
		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, 1	LLC.	)	
	Defendants.	)	

# PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL DEFENDANT'S ANSWERS TO DISCOVERY AND MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT THEREOF

COMES NOW, Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff"), by and through his attorneys The Cagle Law Firm, L.L.C. and for her Motion to Compel and Memorandum in Support of said Motion to Compel Defendant Brook Fairfield Processing Corp. ("Fairfield")'s Answers to Discovery pursuant to Missouri Supreme Court Rule 61, the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, and states as follows to the Court:

## **INTRODUCTION**

The instant case arises out of serious personal injuries sustained by Plaintiff resulting from a incident, on or about December 18-19, 2019, on the property of Fairfield. *See Plaintiff's Petition*. At said date and time, Plaintiff worked as a temporary employee retained to work on a loading bay on Fairfield's premises. *See Plaintiff's Petition*. As Plaintiff straddled the gap between a tractor-trailer to the loading bay in an attempt to remove a ramp connecting the two, the operator of said tractor-trailer, while distracted, unexpectedly pulled away. *Id*. The driver's actions forced Plaintiff to leap onto the bay, injuring her knee. *Id*.

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Despite numerous attempts, including several informal and formal requests to Fairfield (See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 1, E-mail Communication Between Counsel; See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 2, Plaintiff's Supplemental Interrogatory), Plaintiff has been unable to determine the identity of the truck driver in question, or the motor carrier who employed him.

Plaintiff served Fairfield with her First Interrogatories and Requests for Production on March 18, 2021. See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 3, First Propounded Discovery to Fairfield. Fairfield served Plaintiff with its objections to such discovery on April 6, 2021. See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 4, Fairfield's Objections to Plaintiff's Discovery. The majority of these objections hold no basis under Missouri law. Id. After serving Fairfield's counsel with an attempt to resolve, on June 6, 2021, Fairfield provided only seven documents, including an incident report, a mere twelve words of which are not redacted, and a surveillance video depicting neither the incident in question or Plaintiff in any way. Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 5, Fairfield's Supplemental Objections and Responses to Plaintiff's Discovery; Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 6, Fairfield's Redacted Incident Report. Moreover, Fairfield has ignored Plaintiff's Supplemental Interrogatory No. 19, requesting the bill of lading which stands to establish the identity of the truck driver in question and his employer. Despite representing that further documentation and supplemental responses were forthcoming, Plaintiff has received no correspondence on this case in some sixty (60) days.

As such, Plaintiff would request this Court overrule Fairfield's improper objections and compel appropriate responses and production pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules.

#### **RULE**

Under the explicit provisions of the Missouri Supreme Court Rules, "parties may obtain discovery regarding any matter, not privileged, that is relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending action, whether it relates to the claim or defense of the party seeking discovery or to

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the claim or defense of any other party, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition and location of any books, documents or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter." Mo. Sup. Ct. R. 56.01.

The Missouri rules of discovery allow parties to obtain information regarding any matter "relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending action" provided the matter is not privileged. Rule 56.01(b)(1); See also State ex. rel. Laurie Dean v. The Honorable Jon A. Cunningham, 182 S.W.3d 561 (Mo. 2006). Discovery serves to aid litigants in determining the facts and ascertaining all of the evidence with which to "develop their respective contentions and to present their respective sides of the issues framed by the pleadings." State ex rel Martel v. Gallagher, 797 S.W.2d 730, 731 (Mo. App. 1990). Missouri law grants discovery requests a broad scope or "a tendency towards liberality in discovery." State ex rel. Solfa v. Ely, 875 S.W.2d 5790, 581 (Mo. App. 1994). Evidence need only be reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence to become discoverable. In re Marriage of Hershewe, 931 S.W.2d 198, 201 (Mo. App. 1996). This includes not only evidence as to plaintiff's claims, but also evidence and documents regarding the defenses of one's adversary. Clark v. Faith Hospital Association, 472 S.W.2d 375 (Mo. 1971). "[I]f this right of discovery is to have practical value, the party invoking it should not be held to too strict a showing as to the contents of records that [s]he has never seen." State ex rel Iron Fireman Corp. v. Ward, 173 S.W.2d 920, 923 (Mo. banc 1943). When applying these rules, a "trial court's discretion to deny discovery is commensurately more limited." State ex rel Martel v. Gallagher at 731.

## **ARGUMENT**

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# I. <u>Defendants Improperly Attempt to Shield Information Explicitly Contemplated by the Rules from Discovery.</u>

Defendants attempts to bar discovery of information specifically permitted under Rule 56.01.

As stated above the Rules of the Missouri Supreme Court permit the discovery regarding:

[A]ny matter, not privileged, that is relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending action, whether it relates to the claim or defense of the party seeking discovery or to the claim or defense of any other party, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition and location of any books, documents or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter.

Moreover, Missouri Supreme Court Rule 57.01(a) provides that:

[A]ny party may serve upon any other party written interrogatories. Interrogatories may relate to any matter that can be inquired into under Rule 56.01. An interrogatory otherwise proper is not necessarily objectionable merely because an answer to the interrogatory involves an opinion or contention that relates to fact or the application of law to fact, but the court may order that such an interrogatory need not be answered until after designated discovery has been completed or until a pretrial conference or other later time.

Interrogatories Nos. 3-4, and Requests for Production 9 speak to claims Plaintiff has made against Fairfield and seek information related to the identity of potential witnesses and the substance of the knowledge they might have. *See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5.* As such, the information requested therein is explicitly discoverable under Rule 56.01.

Furthermore, Plaintiff's Interrogatory No. 19, requests a bill of lading evidencing the identity of the carrier responsible for Plaintiff's injury. Such information is clearly contemplated by Rule 56.01, which renders discoverable the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter. Nevertheless, Defendant has failed to even provide a response to said request, leaving Plaintiff unable to prosecute her case.

Finally, Fairfield's objection to Interrogatory 16 and Request for Production Nos. 1 and 18-19, seeking any photographs, videotapes, or movies depicting the scene of the incident in Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 117 of 418 PageID #: 122

Fairfield's possession, falls flat under Missouri Supreme Court precedent. The Supreme Court in *State ex rel. McConaha v. Allen*, 979 S.W.2d 188, 189–90 (Mo. 1998) found that "[u]nder Rule 56.01(b)(3)(b) and this Court's decision in *Koehr*. . . surveillance videotape [are] statement[s] . . . discoverable without a showing of undue hardship. *Id*. As such, Plaintiff is categorically entitled to any evidence obtained via surveillance on behalf of Fairfield.

Nevertheless, Fairfield has objected on the basis of work product privilege and produced subject to said objection, one surveillance video containing neither the scene of the incident nor Plaintiff.

# III. <u>Defendants Have Failed To Provide Sufficient Evidence To Bar Discovery Via The Work Product Doctrine or Any Other Privilege.</u>

## A. <u>Defendants' Unsupported Claims of Privilege Are Improper Under Missouri Law.</u>

Moreover, in response to Interrogatories Nos. 5, 15, 17, and 18 and Requests for Production Nos. 1, 2, 15, 16, 18, and 19 to Fairfield, it raises the potential of work product, insured-insurer, or attorney-client privilege. *See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5.* However, such assertions are insufficient under Missouri law.

Claims of privilege or protection are considered impediments to discovery of the truth, deserving of careful scrutiny. See State ex rel. Health Midwest Develop. Group, Inc. v. Daugherty, 965 S.W.2d 841 (Mo. Banc 1998). Therefore, Defendant bears the burden of proving the applicability of any alleged exception to discovery. State ex re. State Board of Pharmacy v. Otto, 866 S.W.2d 480, 483 (Mo. App. W.D. 1993); State ex rel. Dixon v. Darnold, 939 S.W.2d 66, 70 (Mo. App. S.D. 1997). This burden includes a requirement that Defendants state with particularity the grounds for the objection and provide sufficiently specific facts to allow the Court to determine whether they have satisfied each and every element of the claimed privilege for every document or item they seek to withhold. State ex rel. Dixon v. Darnold, 939 S.W.2d

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66, 70 (Mo. App. S.D. 1997); Mo. R. Civ. Pro. 55.26 (a). Failure to prove any element of the claimed protection causes the entire claim to fail. *Id*.

A blanket assertion of protection is insufficient as a matter of law. *Id.*; *State ex rel. Freidman v. Provaznik*, 668 S.W.2d 76 (Mo. banc. 1984). Moreover, Missouri Courts have rejected claims of attorney-client privilege that were "generic," "non-specific," "hypothetical," "blanket assertions," or where such claims applied to matters "*potentially* privileged," or which "*may* require ... disclosure" of privileged communications. *Id.* at 117-18 (emphasis added).

As such, Fairfield's assertions of several potential privileges, without any supporting evidence, fall well short of their burden of proof. Fairfield fails to explain with particularity why the proffered discovery stands to expose privileged or confidential information. *See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5.* Put another way, Fairfield, attempts to usurp the authority of the Court, and unilaterally determine that privilege applies, that no exceptions to said privileges apply, and that they therefore need not produce whichever documents or information they so choose. Therefore, Plaintiff requests this Court to compel Fairfield's production of the requested information and documents.

B. <u>Defendants' Objections Fail to Properly Assert Work Product Privilege or Address the Potential Exception to It's Applicability.</u>

Moreover, Fairfield improperly asserts the protection of work product doctrine to bar large swaths of Plaintiff's propounded discovery. *See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5.* Interrogatories No. 5, 15, and 17 and Requests for Production Nos. 1, 2, 15, 16, 18, and 19 request information related to any incident report or investigation conducted related to the December 18, 2019 incident, copies of said reports, and any photographs or statements related thereto. *Id.* 

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Again, under Missouri Law, blanket assertions of privilege do not properly establish protection under work product doctrine. Instead, to assert this privilege, a party must "establish, via competent evidence, that the materials sought to be protected (1) are documents or tangible things, (2) were prepared in anticipation of litigation or trial, and (3) were prepared by or for a party or a representative of that party." *State ex rel. Ford Motor Co. v. Westbrooke*, 151 S.W3.d 364, 367 (Mo. banc 2004). Because any information related to these discovery requests would likely have preceded anticipation of litigation Fairfield may not properly assert work product protection.

Moreover, Plaintiff may discover statements, photographs, or other evidence obtained by the insurance company relating to the alleged incident not prepared in anticipation of litigation, but rather, in the ordinary course of business. *Ratcliff v. Sprint Missouri, Inc.*, 261 S.W.3d 534, 548 (Mo. Ct. App. W.D. 2008). As such, evidence prepared or collected in the ordinary course of business, and not as communications between the insurer and the insured, is not privileged. *Id.* Furthermore, as stated supra, any surveillance videos or photographs depicting Plaintiff are statements, discoverable without a showing of undue hardship. *Supra*.

As such, under Missouri Law, to assert work product protection, Fairfield must provide some competent evidence providing Plaintiff and the Court with some guidance as to whether such protection applies; these blanket assertions provide no such evidence. As such, Fairfield can not refute the possibility that the ordinary course of business exception to the insured insurer privilege, attorney-client privilege, or work product protection applies in this case. Fairfield has thus failed to carry their burden of proof and can not bar the propounded discovery via its unsupported assertions.

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Therefore, Plaintiff requests this Court overrule said objections and compel Fairfield to provide appropriate responses to Plaintiff's requests.

## III. Evidence That Fairfield or Its Agents, Employees, or Contractors Had Notice of The Dangerous Condition Is Admissible.

Fairfield makes further objections to Interrogatories Nos. 7, and 11, and Requests for Production Nos. 4, and 14, asserting that these requests exceed the scope of the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, are over broad, unduly burdensome, not appropriately limited, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. *See Exhibit 4; Exhibit* 5. Once again, when tested against Missouri Law, Fairfield's argument falls flat. The above listed Interrogatories and Requests for Production seek information related to prior incidents of accidents occurring under similar circumstances to that which cause Plaintiff's injury. *Exhibit 3*.

While "evidence of similar acts of negligence generally is not admissible to demonstrate that a party acted negligently at a subsequent incident", (Lohmann v. Norfolk & Western Railway Company, 948 S.W.2d 659, 671 (Mo.App. W.D.1997)), a defendant's knowledge of prior accidents, or information standing to show that defendant should have, using ordinary care, known of a dangerous condition is far from a novel concept in Missouri common law. State ex rel. Stolfa v. Ely, 875 S.W.2d 579, 581 (Mo. Ct. App. 1994). Furthermore, under Missouri Law, the question of whether a company has procedures or policies, but does not enforce them, that is unquestionably relevant. See Ybarra v. Burlington Northern Inc., 689 F.2d 147, 150 (8th Cir. 1982). The same is true for violation of company standards, industry standards, or regulations and statutes. Reed v. Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Co., 239 S.W.2d 328 (Mo. 1951); First National Bank of Fort Smith v. Kansas City Southern Railway Co., 865 S.W.2d 719 (Mo. App. W.D. 1993).

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Therefore, Plaintiff's discovery requests relating directly to prior incidents relate directly to Fairfield's knowledge of the dangerous condition.

As such, once again, despite Fairfield's attempt to assume the role of finder of law, there remain circumstances where the information requested is, not only discoverable, but specifically admissible. Therefore, Plaintiff would request this Court overrule said objections, and compel proper responses.

## IV. Evidence Of Fairfield's Policies And Procedures Tend To Prove The Elements Of Its Negligence and Are Therefore Discoverable.

Defendant Investment further objects to Plaintiff's Interrogatories Nos. 12 and 18, and Requests for Production Nos. 12, 13, 20, 21, 22, and 23 seeking Fairfield's policies and procedures regarding the training it provided, or regulations or policies it adopted, stating that such requests are overbroad, vague, and ambiguous. *See Exhibit 4*; *Exhibit 5*.

Missouri recognizes not only the theory of vicarious liability of a corporation for the negligence of its employees, but also for its own. *Spence v. BNSF Railway Co.*, 2018 WL 3185473 (Mo. 2018).

Such evidence may tend to prove Fairfield's own negligence. Under Missouri Law, the question of whether a company has procedures or policies, but does not enforce them, that is unquestionably relevant. *See Ybarra v. Burlington Northern Inc.*, 689 F.2d 147, 150 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1982). The same is true for violation of company standards, industry standards, or regulations and statutes. *Reed v. Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Co.*, 239 S.W.2d 328 (Mo. 1951); *First National Bank of Fort Smith v. Kansas City Southern Railway Co.*, 865 S.W.2d 719 (Mo. App. W.D. 1993) (finding evidence that a company adopted rules or standards but failed to follow them in conscious (or flagrant) disregard for the public, presented a jury question as to punitive

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damages). As such, evidence that Fairfield adopted certain policies and procedures, but failed to implement or enforce them is not only discoverable, but admissible to the jury.

As such, Plaintiff requests this Court overrule Fairfield's objections and compel their production of the relevant policies and procedures, and associated training manuals.

## **CONCLUSION**

Plaintiff served specific and directed discovery to Defendant based upon the elements of her asserted claims. This discovery sought material clearly relevant to each of these claims. Such documents would not only likely lead to the discovery of admissible evidence, but may in fact be admissible evidence. In response, Defendants have filed multiple blanket, general objections, with no foundation in Missouri law. As such, Plaintiff would ask the Court to enter its Order requiring full and complete answers to each of the Interrogatories and Requests identified above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for this Court to overrule Defendants Ledbetter's and SWBT's Objections to Interrogatories and Request for Production of Documents, Order Defendants to answer and make all disclosures called for in Plaintiff's discovery within twenty (20) days without further objection and for any such other and further relief as this Court deems appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

By:

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO #71766 Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: zane@caglellc.com E-Mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent via electronic mail and through this Court's Electronic Filing Service for service upon Counsel for Defendant at the address listed below on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

John A. Mazzei, jmazzei@bjpc.com dbuchanan@bjpc.com 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, Missouri, 63101 (314) 421-3400 (314) 421-3128 (fax) Attorneys For Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO #71766

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## John Appelbaum, Jr

From:

John Appelbaum, Jr

Sent:

Friday, July 16, 2021 12:23 PM

To:

'Mazzei, John'

Subject:

RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Attachments:

Ltr to OPC re Discovery-7-16-21.pdf

Good afternoon John,

Please find attached our correspondence related to the above styled case.

Thanks and take care,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102

Office: (314)-241-1700 Cell: (314)-315-5928 John@caglellc.com

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From: John Appelbaum, Jr

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 2:45 PM
To: 'Mazzei, John' <jmazzei@bjpc.com>
Subject: RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Thanks for touching base, I've saved the documents to our file. I'll keep an eye out for the Interrogatory and supplemental responses.



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Have a good weekend,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102 Office: (314)-241-1700

Cell: (314)-315-5928 John@caglellc.com

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From: Mazzei, John < <u>imazzei@bjpc.com</u>> Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 11:43 AM

To: John Appelbaum, Jr < <u>john@caglellc.com</u>>
Subject: RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Not yet. I provided initial responses to your request for production with what I have in our case file. I will meet with my clients to supplement the responses and send you interrogatory anwers.

Have a good weekend.



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 jmazzei@bjpc.com

Website

From: John Appelbaum, Jr <john@caglellc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:17 PM
To: Mazzei, John <jmazzei@bjpc.com>
Subject: RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Good afternoon John,

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I don't anticipate that being a problem. I'll look forward to your responses. Also, were you able to find any further information on the trucking company involved?

Thanks and take care,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102 Office: (314)-241-1700 Cell: (314)-315-5928

John@caglellc.com

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From: Mazzei, John < imazzei@bjpc.com > Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 9:41 AM To: John Appelbaum, Jr < iohn@caglellc.com > Subject: RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Hi, John:

We are not going to just rely on our objections. We are going to be sending you discovery responses as well as a privilege log. Can we revisit the objections after we provide discovery responses?



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 jmazzei@bjpc.com

Website

From: John Appelbaum, Jr < john@caglellc.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 3:18 PM

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**To:** Mazzei, John < <u>jmazzei@bjpc.com</u>> **Subject:** RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Good afternoon John,

Please find attached Plaintiff's formal attempt to resolve letter regarding the above styled case.

Thanks and take care,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102 Office: (314)-241-1700 Cell: (314)-315-5928

John@caglellc.com

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From: Mazzei, John < imazzei@bjpc.com > Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:25 AM
To: John Appelbaum, Jr < iohn@caglellc.com >

Subject: RE: Lawrence

We got it off the internet. This is the best information I have right now. I will keep on digging.



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 imazzei@bjpc.com

Website | Bio



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 128 of 418 PageID #: 133

jmazzei@bjpc.com

Website

From: John Appelbaum, Jr [mailto:john@caglellc.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:21 AM To: Mazzei, John < <a href="mazzei@bjpc.com">jmazzei@bjpc.com</a>>

Subject: RE: Lawrence

Thank you John,

Can I ask where you got this info? This was the first entity I served and they signed an affidavit stating they have not delivered in the St. Louis area in some time. I would like to be sure which entity is responsible.

Thanks and take care,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102 Office: (314)-241-1700 Cell: (314)-315-5928

John@caglellc.com

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From: Mazzei, John < imazzei@bjpc.com > Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:07 AM To: John Appelbaum, Jr < john@caglellc.com >

Subject: Lawrence

Murfreesboro, TN Corporate Office 304 Robert Rose Dr Murfreesboro, TN 37129 615-793-9500 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 129 of 418 PageID #: 134

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John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 imazzei@bipc.com

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John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 jmazzei@bjpc.com

Website

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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENC	Ε,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN	NG CORPORATION	)	Division.
And		)	
VENTUDE EVDDESS I	I.C.	)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, L	Defendants.	)	

## PLAINTIFF'S FIRST INTERROGATORIES DIRECTED TO DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, ("Plaintiff") pursuant to Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 57.01, and hereby propounds the following First Interrogatories Directed to Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), to be answered in writing, under oath and according to law.

## **INTERROGATORIES**

19. Is there a bill of lading or any other document describing in detail, the identity of the carrier who owned/operated the truck/tractor/trailer at the time of the accident? If so, please list the custodian of each such document, the title of each, the preparer and employer of each and attach a copy of said document to your responses hereto.

ANSWER:

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: john@caglellc.com Attorney for Plaintiff Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 131 of 418 PageID #: 136

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent electronic mail for service upon the Defendant to the attorneys of record indicated below on March 18, 2021:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

John S. Appelbaum Jr. MO#71766

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)	
Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.	)	
	)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION	)	
	)	
And	)	
	)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.	)	
Defendants.	)	

## PLAINTIFF'S FIRST REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS DIRECTED TO DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, ("Plaintiff") by and through her attorneys of record sand pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules and Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure and for her First Requests for Production of Documents Directed to Directed to Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield") and request that said documents be produced to 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605 with thirty (30) days:

1. Any investigative reports, videos, photos, or other documentary evidence, including security footage, possessed by or on behalf of Fairfield related to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, including copies of any and all photographs, digital images, videotape, motion pictures, movies and/or any other visual depictions of any kind of the condition on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

### **RESPONSE:**

2. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting any statements obtained from any witness, person, who claim to have, knowledge regarding the incident at issue

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as described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages. (Note: If claiming a privilege please provided a privilege log).

## **RESPONSE:**

3. Copies of any statements, either written or recorded or notes of statements taken from Plaintiff.

## **RESPONSE**:

4. Any and all documents, reports and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting notice and/or knowledge of any complaints, concerns, claims and/or lawsuits involving the alleged dangerous condition(s) of the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition during the time period between December 19, 2018 and December 19, 2019.

## **RESPONSE:**

5. Certified copies of the declaration pages and all policies of insurance issued to Fairfield, including liability coverage, and any limits of liabilities for the allegations set forth in Plaintiff's petition.

## **RESPONSE:**

6. Copies of any and all medical records and reports of any kind whatsoever relating to and/or regarding the Plaintiff.

## **RESPONSE**:

7. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever that any expert witness you intend to have testify at trial has reviewed which relates to or in any way concerns the incident at issue as more fully described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, or which relates to or in any way concerns the injuries and damages suffered and sustained by Plaintiff, or concerns the litigation of this cause in any way whatsoever.

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### **RESPONSE:**

8. A curriculum vitae or resume for each expert witness or non-retained expert whom you expect to call to testify at the trial of this cause.

## **RESPONSE:**

9. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever which reflect the identity of the employees, agents and/or servants, or contractors of Fairfield on duty at the loading dock alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

## **RESPONSE:**

10. Please identify the names, addresses, employer, and job title of any individuals which communicated with the Plaintiff subsequent to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition.

## **RESPONSE:**

11. Any documents which reflect the ownership of the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

## **RESPONSE:**

12. Any and all documents, materials, company manuals, handbooks, handouts, pamphlets, brochures, videos, DVDs, or similar materials reflecting any policies and procedures, standing orders, company issued rules or regulations, directives or notices, safety policies or programs, in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Fairfield in instructing or controlling their employees' agents', and/or contractors', work, activities, job performance, regarding the maintenance and repair of, or removal of snow and ice from, any sidewalks on Premises in effect on December 19, 2019.

### **RESPONSE:**

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13. Documents reflecting Fairfield's written company policy(ies) regarding suppression, destruction or disposal of evidence in connection with anticipated litigation and/or claims in effect during the period of December 19, 2019 to present.

## **RESPONSE:**

14. A copy of any and all safety inspections and/or audits performed on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition during the time period of December 19, 2018 and December 19, 2019.

### **RESPONSE:**

15. All e-mails, faxes, messages, internet communication, memos, or similar communication between Fairfield and Fairfield's employees and/or agents concerning the incident alleged in Plaintiffs' Petition. Note: said request does not include any communications with Fairfield's counsel.

#### **RESPONSE:**

16. Any documents concerning this Incident provided to any third person by Fairfield immediately following said Incident, excluding those to attorneys.

## **RESPONSE:**

17. A copy of any logs, sign-in sheets, or time cards which reflect the identity of all individual employees, agents, or contractors on the loading dock on December 19, 2019.

### **RESPONSE:**

18. Any investigative reports, videos, photos, or other documentary evidence, including security footage, possessed by or on behalf of Decedent related to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition.

#### **RESPONSE**:

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19. Copies of any and all photographs, digital images, videotape, motion pictures, movies and/or any other visual depictions of any kind of the condition of the loading dock, and the Incident as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

## **RESPONSE**

20. All documents, materials, company manuals, company issued rules and regulations, directives or notices in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Defendants in controlling their employees and/or agents' work, activities, job performance, regarding supervision and operation of the loading dock and any safety precautions associated therewith.

## **RESPONSE:**

21. Any of Defendant's officers', executives' or administrators' directives, bulletins or written instruments in reference to the day to day operating procedures or policy relating to the supervision and operation of the loading dock on which Plaintiff alleges her incident occurred.

### **RESPONSE:**

22. Any and all documents which reflect Defendants' policies, procedures, safety rules, regulations, or standing orders regarding the inspection, supervision, and operation of the loading dock in effect on December 19, 2019.

### **RESPONSE**:

23. The document creation, retention, and destruction policy of Defendants to include, but not limited to photographs, video, statements, incident reports, injury and incident investigations, premises inspections, logs, and the like for the subject premises.

#### **RESPONSE:**

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## Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbarm Jr., MO#71766 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent electronic mail for service upon the Defendant to the attorneys of record indicated below on March 18, 2021:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

John S. Appelbaum Jr. MO#71766

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWREN	CE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
vs.		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION		į	Division.
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS,	INC.	)	
	Defendants.	)	

## PLAINTIFF'S FIRST INTERROGATORIES DIRECTED TO DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, ("Plaintiff") pursuant to Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 57.01, and hereby propounds the following First Interrogatories Directed to Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), to be answered in writing, under oath and according to law.

## **Introduction**

These interrogatories and requests for production which are included pursuant to the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure are to be regarded as continuing, and you will be requested to provide, by way of supplementary answers thereto, such additional information or material as you, your counsel, or any other person on your behalf, or subject to your control, may hereinafter obtain which will augment or otherwise modify the answers now given to these interrogatories or requests for production, which has reference to names and addresses of persons having knowledge of discoverable facts, which has reference to the names and addresses of expert witnesses expected to be called to trial, or which corrects these responses to interrogatories or requests for production which were incorrect when made and which are now incorrect because of a change in circumstances.

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Such supplemental responses are to be filed and served upon the Plaintiff(s) within fourteen (14) days after receipt of such information, but not later than three (3) weeks preceding the date of trial.

### **Definitions**

"Identify," when referring to an individual person, means to state his or her full name, present or last-known address and telephone number, present or last-known position and business affiliation and title of position held and by whom employed at the time of each event, transaction or occurrence hereinafter referred to.

The term "document," as used herein includes, without limitation, drafts, discarded originals, contracts, leases, agreements, memoranda of agreement, letters, inter-company memoranda, correspondence, memorandum reports or written communications, instructions, reports, newspapers or other publications, photographs, videotapes, blueprints, photographic matters, salary productions, however produced or reproduced, microfilm, computer-generated matter, e-mail, transcripts, or any written communication of any kind whatsoever, now or formerly in, under, or subject to the possession, custody or control of your representatives.

"Identify," when referring to a document, shall mean the date and author, type of document, (e.g., letter, memorandum, etc.), or some other means of identifying it. Further a request for the "description" or "identification" of any document should be understood to include as well a request for the following information:

- (a) The name and address of each and every person, as defined below, by whom such "document" was received, to whom it was sent or circulated, or by whom it was received;
- (b) The nature and substance of the "document" with sufficient particularity to enable the same to be identified:
- (c) The date of the document and the date the document was executed, (if different from the date it bears);
- (d) Whether you claim any privilege as to such "document," and if so, a precise statement of the facts on which such claim of privilege is based;
- (e) The name and address of each and every person who participated in the drafting or creation of the "document";

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- (f) The present location and the name and address of the present custodian of the "document"; and
- (g) If a "document" was, but no longer is, in your control, the disposition that was made of it, the circumstances surrounding the disposition, the authorization for such disposition, and the date or approximate date thereof.

## **INTERROGATORIES**

1. Please state the name, address and telephone number of the person or persons participating in the answering of these interrogatories? For each person, list the person's official position or relationship with the party to whom the interrogatories are directed, as well as the number of each interrogatory which the person participated in answering.

## **ANSWER:**

3. Please state the name address, telephone number, place of employment and job title of any person who has, claims to have, or whom you believe may have, knowledge or information pertaining to any fact alleged in the pleadings filed in this action, or any fact underlying the subject matter of this action, and specify what information those individuals have that is related to Plaintiff's claims.

### **ANSWER:**

4. Please state the specific nature and substance of the knowledge that you believe the person(s) identified in your response to Interrogatory No. 2 may have.

### **ANSWER:**

- 5. Please describe any statements concerning the incident made to any employee, contractor, agent, private investigator, insurance company agent or adjuster, or internal investigator employed or contracted by Defendant and/or Defendant's insurance carrier? (Note: Plaintiff is not requesting any attorney client communications). If applicable, please state:
  - (a) The name, address and employer of the person to whom the statement was made;

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- (b) The date of each statement;
- (c) Whether the statement was oral or written, and if oral, whether it was recorded;
- (d) The name and address of the custodian(s) of each statement.

### **ANSWER:**

- 6. Please identify any and all past or present Fairfield employees who would have been on the loading dock as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019. For each such person, state their:
  - (a) Address;
  - (b) Telephone number; and
  - (c) Job description/title and general responsibilities on December 19, 2019.

## **ANSWER:**

7. Please identify all investigations, civil lawsuits, audits, reports, or allegations in any form that contend that Fairfield or any of its employees, subsidiaries, or subcontractors failed to exercise due care in the supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition from December 19, 2018 through December 19, 2019.

## **ANSWER:**

- 8. Do you have any insurance agreements, policies, contracts or any other items, documents or things of any kind whatsoever which will indemnify you and/or may indemnify you, in whole or in part, against any judgment Plaintiff may obtain in this action? If so, please state:
  - (a) The name and address of the organization(s), along with any appropriate citation number(s), who may indemnify you.
  - (b) The total limits of coverage on the date of the occurrence referred to in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages; and
  - (c) Please attach such applicable documents to your answers to these interrogatories.

### **ANSWER:**

9. Please identify by name, address, telephone number and field of expertise each retained person you intend to call as an expert witness at trial. For each retained expert, state the expert's

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occupation, place of employment and qualifications to give an opinion, or if such information is available in the expert's curriculum vitae, such curriculum vitae may be attached to this interrogatory answer in response, and state the general nature of the subject matter on which the expert is expected to testify, and the expert's hourly deposition fee.

## ANSWER:

10. Please identify by name, address, telephone number and field of expertise each non-retained person you expect to call as an expert witness at trial.

## ANSWER:

- 11. Please describe any incident, other than that described in the Petition, where any person reported injuries arising from improper supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, during the two (2) year period prior to the date of this incident and/or during the four (4) months subsequent to this incident? If applicable, as to each report please provide the following information:
  - (a) The date of each such incident;
  - (b) A brief description of each such incident and the injuries involved; and
  - (c) Whether any of the incidents referred to above resulted in a claim and/or lawsuit, and if so, the name of each claimant, date of the filing of each such claim and/or lawsuit, the civil number, if any, and a summary of the disposition of each such claim or lawsuit.

## **ANSWER:**

- 12. Please describe any system, routine, rules, policies, procedures, or standing orders of any kind to inspect and supervise the operation of the loading dock, and enforcement of safety protocols on the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition for its subsidiaries or subcontractors, during the time period of October 1, 2019 and December 19, 2019. If applicable, please provide:
  - (a) A general description of such system or routine;
  - (b) The name, address, and particular duties of each person directly involved in such system or routine of inspection and/or maintenance in the general area where this incident occurred as of the date of this incident;

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- (c) Dates each individual was involved; and
- (d) A general description of the training materials or manuals related to the safety protocols relating to the inspection and supervisions of fireworks displays.

## **ANSWER:**

13. Please state the name, address, and employer of any individuals with knowledge of how and/or why and/or if the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition occurred.

### ANSWER:

14. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted statement, reported or otherwise), from the Plaintiff regarding any of the circumstances relating to the incident, events set forth and outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, her injuries, or other damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by her. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

## **ANSWER:**

15. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted, reported or otherwise), from any individuals, including your employees, agents and/or servants, or from any entities regarding any of the circumstances relating to the events set forth or outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by them. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

### **ANSWER:**

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16. State whether there exist photographs, videotapes, or movies with respect to the automobiles or scene of the Incident mentioned in the Petition. If so, state the following:

- (a) Describe each photograph, video, or movie;
- (b) State the date each was taken;
- (c) State the name and address of the person taking each such photo, video, or movie;
- (d) State the name, address, employer, insurer, and job title of the person presently having control or custody of each photograph, video or movie.

### **ANSWER:**

17. Please state whether Defendant and/or its employees, agents and/or servants in the regular course of Defendant's business, conducted an investigation into the events giving rise to Plaintiff's claims as set forth in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages and the injuries sustained by Plaintiff. If yes, please indicate the names of individuals that participated the investigation, whether that investigation resulted in any kind of written report and/or any other type of tangible item and the name and address of its custodian.

### **ANSWER:**

- 18. Does any Defendant have any policies or procedures that were in place from December 19, 2018 to the present time related to document creation, retention, and destruction of photographs, audio, video, incident reports, statements of victims or witnesses, maintenance records, work orders, job assignments, training materials, policies and procedures, or loading dock inspection records or logs. If so, then state:
  - a) Specifically state the policy.
  - b) State the dates said policy was in effect.
  - c) If you will do so without a formal request for production of documents, please attach a full and complete copy of any printed material explaining said policy to Defendant's employees, agents, contractors, or other

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- personnel, or in the alternative, state verbatim the contents of the printed materials.
- d) Identify each individual who was required to patrol or otherwise view the subject premises at the location where Plaintiff fell on or about the date of the incident, including:
  - i. each person's name, home address, and telephone number;
  - ii. each person's business address and telephone number;
  - iii. each person's current employer and job title; and
  - iv. each person's job title and employer on the date of the incident.

### ANSWER:

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appeloarm Jr., MO#71766 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent electronic mail for service upon the Defendant to the attorneys of record indicated below on March 18, 2021:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

John S. Appelbaum Jr. MO#71766

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### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

### <u>DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S</u> OBJECTIONS TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation, by and through counsel, and for its Objections to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents, states as follows:

1. Any investigative reports, videos, photos, or other documentary evidence, including security footage, possessed by or on behalf of Fairfield related to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, including copies of any and all photographs, digital images, videotape, motion pictures, movies and/or any other visual depictions of any kind of the condition on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

<u>OBJECTION</u>: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.

2. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting any statements obtained from any witness, person, who claim to have, knowledge regarding the incident at issue as described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages. (Note: If claiming a privilege please provided a privilege log).

<u>OBJECTION</u>: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.

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4. Any and all documents, reports and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting notice and/or knowledge of any complaints, concerns, claims and/or lawsuits involving the alleged dangerous condition(s) of the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition during the time period between December 19, 2018 and December 19, 2019.

OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege. Defendant also objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

6. Copies of any and all medical records and reports of any kind whatsoever relating to and/or regarding the Plaintiff.

<u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is beyond the scope of discovery as provided for by the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure. Defendant also objects to this request for the reason the information is equally available to Plaintiff.

7. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever that any expert witness you intend to have testify at trial has reviewed which relates to or in any way concerns the incident at issue as more fully described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, or which relates to or in any way concerns the injuries and damages suffered and sustained by Plaintiff, or concerns the litigation of this cause in any way whatsoever.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is beyond the scope of discovery as provided for by the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure.

9. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever which reflect the identity of the employees, agents and/or servants, or contractors of Fairfield on duty at the loading dock alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

RESPONSE: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.

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- 12. Any and all documents, materials, company manuals, handbooks, handouts, pamphlets, brochures, videos, DVDs, or similar materials reflecting any policies and procedures, standing orders, company issued rules or regulations, directives or notices, safety policies or programs, in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Fairfield in instructing or controlling their employees' agents', and/or contractors', work, activities, job performance, regarding the maintenance and repair of, or removal of snow and ice from, any sidewalks on Premises in effect on December 19, 2019.
- OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.
- 13. Documents reflecting Fairfield's written company policy(ies) regarding suppression, destruction or disposal of evidence in connection with anticipated litigation and/or claims in effect during the period of December 19, 2019 to present.
- OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.
- 14. A copy of any and all safety inspections and/or audits performed on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition during the time period of December 19, 2018 and December 19, 2019.
- OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.
- 15. All e-mails, faxes, messages, internet communication, memos, or similar communication between Fairfield and Fairfield's employees and/or agents concerning the incident alleged in Plaintiffs' Petition. Note: said request does not include any communications with Fairfield's counsel.
- <u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.
- 16. Any documents concerning this Incident provided to any third person by Fairfield immediately following said Incident, excluding those to attorneys.

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<u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.

- 17. A copy of any logs, sign-in sheets, or time cards which reflect the identity of all individual employees, agents, or contractors on the loading dock on December 19, 2019.
- OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.
- 18. Any investigative reports, videos, photos, or other documentary evidence, including security footage, possessed by or on behalf of Decedent related to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition.
- <u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.
- 19. Copies of any and all photographs, digital images, videotape, motion pictures, movies and/or any other visual depictions of any kind of the condition of the loading dock, and the Incident as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.
- Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege. Defendant also objects to the request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief
- 20. All documents, materials, company manuals, company issued rules and regulations, directives or notices in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Defendants in controlling their employees and/or agents' work, activities, job performance, regarding supervision and operation of the loading dock and any safety precautions associated therewith.
- **OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.
- 21. Any of Defendant's officers', executives' or administrators' directives, bulletins or written instruments in reference to the day to day operating procedures or policy relating to the supervision and operation of the loading dock on which Plaintiff alleges her incident occurred.

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**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

22. Any and all documents which reflect Defendants' policies, procedures, safety rules, regulations, or standing orders regarding the inspection, supervision, and operation of the loading dock in effect on December 19, 2019.

OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief

23. The document creation, retention, and destruction policy of Defendants to include, but not limited to photographs, video, statements, incident reports, injury and incident investigations, premises inspections, logs, and the like for the subject premises.

OBJECTION:

Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege. Defendant also objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

IslJohn A. Mazzei
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800 Market Street, Suite 1100
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(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant
Fairfield Processing Corporation

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2021, the foregoing was served by Electronic Mail on all attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 25742317.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 154 of 418 PageID #: 159

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

### DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S OBJECTIONS TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST INTERROGATORIES

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation, by and through counsel, and for its Objections to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories, states as follows:

3. Please state the name address, telephone number, place of employment and job title of any person who has, claims to have, or whom you believe may have, knowledge or information pertaining to any fact alleged in the pleadings filed in this action, or any fact underlying the subject matter of this action, and specify what information those individuals have that is related to Plaintiff's claims.

<u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.

- 4. Please state the specific nature and substance of the knowledge that you believe the person(s) identified in your response to Interrogatory No. 2 may have.
- **OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.
- 5. Please describe any statements concerning the incident made to any employee, contractor, agent, private investigator, insurance company agent or adjuster, or internal

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investigator employed or contracted by Defendant and/or Defendant's insurance carrier? (<u>Note</u>: Plaintiff is not requesting any attorney client communications). If applicable, please state:

- (a) The name, address and employer of the person to whom the statement was made;
- (b) The date of each statement;
- (c) Whether the statement was oral or written, and if oral, whether it was recorded;
- (d) The name and address of the custodian(s) of each statement.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.

7. Please identify all investigations, civil lawsuits, audits, reports, or allegations in any form that contend that Fairfield or any of its employees, subsidiaries, or subcontractors failed to exercise due care in the supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition from December 19, 2018 through December 19, 2019.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it is overbroad and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

- 11. Please describe any incident, other than that described in the Petition, where any person reported injuries arising from improper supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, during the two (2) year period prior to the date of this incident and/or during the four (4) months subsequent to this incident? If applicable, as to each report please provide the following information:
  - (a) The date of each such incident;
  - (b) A brief description of each such incident and the injuries involved; and
  - (c) Whether any of the incidents referred to above resulted in a claim and/or lawsuit, and if so, the name of each claimant, date of the filing of each such claim and/or lawsuit, the civil number, if any, and a summary of the disposition of each such claim or lawsuit.

<u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it is overbroad and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

12. Please describe any system, routine, rules, policies, procedures, or standing orders of any kind to inspect and supervise the operation of the loading dock, and enforcement of safety protocols on the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition for its subsidiaries or subcontractors, during the time period of October 1, 2019 and December 19, 2019. If applicable, please provide:

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(a) A general description of such system or routine;

(b) The name, address, and particular duties of each person directly involved in such system or routine of inspection and/or maintenance in the general area where this incident occurred as of the date of this incident:

(c) Dates each individual was involved; and

(d) A general description of the training materials or manuals related to the safety protocols relating to the inspection and supervisions of fireworks displays.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it is overbroad and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

15. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted, reported or otherwise), from any individuals, including your employees, agents and/or servants, or from any entities regarding any of the circumstances relating to the events set forth or outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by them. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.

17. Please state whether Defendant and/or its employees, agents and/or servants in the regular course of Defendant's business, conducted an investigation into the events giving rise to Plaintiff's claims as set forth in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages and the injuries sustained by Plaintiff. If yes, please indicate the names of individuals that participated the investigation, whether that investigation resulted in any kind of written report and/or any other type of tangible item and the name and address of its custodian.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.

18. Does any Defendant have any policies or procedures that were in place from December 19, 2018 to the present time related to document creation, retention, and destruction of photographs, audio, video, incident reports, statements of victims or witnesses, maintenance

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records, work orders, job assignments, training materials, policies and procedures, or loading dock inspection records or logs. If so, then state:

- a) Specifically state the policy.
- b) State the dates said policy was in effect.
- c) If you will do so without a formal request for production of documents, please attach a full and complete copy of any printed material explaining said policy to Defendant's employees, agents, contractors, or other personnel, or in the alternative, state verbatim the contents of the printed materials.
- d) Identify each individual who was required to patrol or otherwise view the subject premises at the location where Plaintiff fell on or about the date of the incident, including:
  - i. each person's name, home address, and telephone number;
  - ii. each person's business address and telephone number;
  - iii. each person's current employer and job title; and
  - iv. each person's job title and employer on the date of the incident.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product and attorney-client privilege.

#### **BROWN & JAMES, P.C.**

/s/John A. Mazzei

John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398 <u>imazzei@bjpc.com</u> <u>dbuchanan@bjpc.com</u> 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, Missouri, 63101 (314) 421-3400 (314) 421-3128 (fax) **Attorneys For Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation**  Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 158 of 418 PageID #: 163

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2021, the foregoing was served by Electronic Mail on all attorneys of record. further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 25732480.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 159 of 4



# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) Division 1
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

# <u>DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S</u> ANSWERS TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST INTERROGATORIES

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Answers to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories, states as follows:

1. Please state the name, address and telephone number of the person or persons participating in the answering of these interrogatories? For each person, list the person's official position or relationship with the party to whom the interrogatories are directed, as well as the number of each interrogatory which the person participated in answering.

<u>ANSWER:</u> Hector Geist (Director of Operations), Fairfield Processing Corporation (with the assistance of counsel), 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63147. Fairfield employees may be contacted through defense counsel.

3. Please state the name address, telephone number, place of employment and job title of any person who has, claims to have, or whom you believe may have, knowledge or information pertaining to any fact alleged in the pleadings filed in this action, or any fact underlying the subject matter of this action, and specify what information those individuals have that is related to Plaintiff's claims.

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ANSWER: Hector Geist (Director of Operations), Fairfield Processing Corporation; Ryan Cannon, (Distribution Supervisor), Fairfield Processing Corporation, 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63147. Fairfield employees may be contacted through defense counsel.

4. Please state the specific nature and substance of the knowledge that you believe the person(s) identified in your response to Interrogatory No. 2 may have.

### ANSWER: Plaintiff did not submit Interrogatory No. 2.

- 5. Please describe any statements concerning the incident made to any employee, contractor, agent, private investigator, insurance company agent or adjuster, or internal investigator employed or contracted by Defendant and/or Defendant's insurance carrier? (Note: Plaintiff is not requesting any attorney client communications). If applicable, please state:
  - (a) The name, address and employer of the person to whom the statement was made:
  - (b) The date of each statement;
  - (c) Whether the statement was oral or written, and if oral, whether it was recorded;
  - (d) The name and address of the custodian(s) of each statement.

# ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

- 6. Please identify any and all past or present Fairfield employees who would have been on the loading dock as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019. For each such person, state their:
  - (a) Address;
  - (b) Telephone number; and
  - (c) Job description/title and general responsibilities on December 19, 2019.

# ANSWER: Hector Geist (Director of Operations), Fairfield Processing Corporation; Ryan Cannon (Distribution Supervisor), Fairfield Processing Corporation, 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63147. The alleged incident allegedly occurred on December 18, 2019 according to the written statement of Plaintiff. See employees who may have been at or near the loading dock on December 18, 2019, identified in Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production. Fairfield employees may be contacted through defense counsel.

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7. Please identify all investigations, civil lawsuits, audits, reports, or allegations in any form that contend that Fairfield or any of its employees, subsidiaries, or subcontractors failed to exercise due care in the supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition from December 19, 2018 through December 19, 2019.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, Defendant denies it failed to exercise due care in the supervision and operating of the loading dock on December 18, 2019. The alleged incident allegedly occurred on December 18, 2019 according to the written statement of Plaintiff. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

- 8. Do you have any insurance agreements, policies, contracts or any other items, documents or things of any kind whatsoever which will indemnify you and/or may indemnify you, in whole or in part, against any judgment Plaintiff may obtain in this action? If so, please state:
  - (a) The name and address of the organization(s), along with any appropriate citation number(s), who may indemnify you.
  - (b) The total limits of coverage on the date of the occurrence referred to in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages; and
  - (c) Please attach such applicable documents to your answers to these interrogatories.

# ANSWER: See Certificate of Liability produced in Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

9. Please identify by name, address, telephone number and field of expertise each retained person you intend to call as an expert witness at trial. For each retained expert, state the expert's occupation, place of employment and qualifications to give an opinion, or if such information is available in the expert's curriculum vitae, such curriculum vitae may be attached to this interrogatory answer in response, and state the general nature of the subject matter on which the expert is expected to testify, and the expert's hourly deposition fee.

ANSWER: Defendant states that it will participate in expert witness discovery in the manner provided for by the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, and, at that time, in the sequence directed by this Court in its Case Management Order. Defendant reserves the right to elicit expert and/or fact witness testimony from

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Plaintiff's treating physicians. Defendant also reserves the right to elicit expert and/or fact witness testimony from any expert witness identified by Plaintiff or any other party. Defendant reserves the right to request an IME. Defendant further reserves the right to have the examining physician testify as to the examination and/or review. Defendant reserves the right to call the examining physician at trial.

- 10. Please identify by name, address, telephone number and field of expertise each non-retained person you expect to call as an expert witness at trial.
- ANSWER: Defendant states that it will participate in expert witness discovery in the manner provided for by the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, and, at that time, in the sequence directed by this Court in its Case Management Order. Defendant reserves the right to elicit expert and/or fact witness testimony from Plaintiff's treating physicians. Defendant also reserves the right to elicit expert and/or fact witness testimony from any expert witness identified by Plaintiff or any other party.
- 11. Please describe any incident, other than that described in the Petition, where any person reported injuries arising from improper supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, during the two (2) year period prior to the date of this incident and/or during the four (4) months subsequent to this incident? If applicable, as to each report please provide the following information:
  - (a) The date of each such incident;
  - (b) A brief description of each such incident and the injuries involved; and
  - (c) Whether any of the incidents referred to above resulted in a claim and/or lawsuit, and if so, the name of each claimant, date of the filing of each such claim and/or lawsuit, the civil number, if any, and a summary of the disposition of each such claim or lawsuit.

#### ANSWER: See previously filed Objection.

- 12. Please describe any system, routine, rules, policies, procedures, or standing orders of any kind to inspect and supervise the operation of the loading dock, and enforcement of safety protocols on the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition for its subsidiaries or subcontractors, during the time period of October 1, 2019 and December 19, 2019. If applicable, please provide:
  - (a) A general description of such system or routine;

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- (b) The name, address, and particular duties of each person directly involved in such system or routine of inspection and/or maintenance in the general area where this incident occurred as of the date of this incident;
- (c) Dates each individual was involved; and
- (d) A general description of the training materials or manuals related to the safety protocols relating to the inspection and supervisions of fireworks displays.

# ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see Chocking Procedures produced in Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

13. Please state the name, address, and employer of any individuals with knowledge of how and/or why and/or if the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition occurred.

# ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, Fairfield employees Hector Geist and Ryan Cannon were present at the premises on the day of the alleged incident.

14. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted statement, reported or otherwise), from the Plaintiff regarding any of the circumstances relating to the incident, events set forth and outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, her injuries, or other damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by her. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

# ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

15. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted, reported or otherwise), from any individuals, including your employees, agents and/or servants, or from any entities regarding any of the circumstances relating to the events set forth or outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all

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documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by them. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

- 16. State whether there exist photographs, videotapes, or movies with respect to the automobiles or scene of the Incident mentioned in the Petition. If so, state the following:
  - (a) Describe each photograph, video, or movie;
  - (b) State the date each was taken;
  - (c) State the name and address of the person taking each such photo, video, or movie;
  - (d) State the name, address, employer, insurer, and job title of the person presently having control or custody of each photograph, video or movie.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see video surveillance footage produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

17. Please state whether Defendant and/or its employees, agents and/or servants in the regular course of Defendant's business, conducted an investigation into the events giving rise to Plaintiff's claims as set forth in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages and the injuries sustained by Plaintiff. If yes, please indicate the names of individuals that participated the investigation, whether that investigation resulted in any kind of written report and/or any other type of tangible item and the name and address of its custodian.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

18. Does any Defendant have any policies or procedures that were in place from December 19, 2018 to the present time related to document creation, retention, and destruction of photographs, audio, video, incident reports, statements of victims or witnesses, maintenance

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records, work orders, job assignments, training materials, policies and procedures, or loading dock inspection records or logs. If so, then state:

- a) Specifically state the policy.
- b) State the dates said policy was in effect.
- c) If you will do so without a formal request for production of documents, please attach a full and complete copy of any printed material explaining said policy to Defendant's employees, agents, contractors, or other personnel, or in the alternative, state verbatim the contents of the printed materials.
- d) Identify each individual who was required to patrol or otherwise view the subject premises at the location where Plaintiff fell on or about the date of the incident, including:
  - i. each person's name, home address, and telephone number;
  - ii. each person's business address and telephone number;
  - iii. each person's current employer and job title; and
  - iv. each person's job title and employer on the date of the incident.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see Chocking Procedures produced in Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

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STATE OF <u>MISSOUR</u>()

CITY OF <u>ST. Louis</u>)

SS

Comes Now HECTOR GEIST, and states that the above Answers to Interrogatories are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Hector Geist, Fairfield Processing Corporation

Subscribed and sworn to before me this  $2^{5T}$  day of <u>October</u>, 2021.

Sua M. HEUR Notary Public TINA M. HEUER

My Commission Ex

TINAM. HEUER

May 24, 2024 St. Louis County Commission #12468494 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 167 of 418 PageID #: 172

### **BROWN & JAMES, P.C.**

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys for Defendant
Fairfield Processing Corporation

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021, the foregoing was served electronically to john@caglellc.com. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/llw 25741901.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 168 of 418 PageID #: 173

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) Division 1 )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	) )

# DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents, states as follows:

2. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting any statements obtained from any witness, person, who claim to have, knowledge regarding the incident at issue as described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages. (Note: If claiming a privilege please provided a privilege log).

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached emails.

9. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever which reflect the identity of the employees, agents and/or servants, or contractors of Fairfield on duty at the loading dock alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

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RESPONSE: The alleged incident allegedly occurred on December 18, 2019 according to the written statement of Plaintiff. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Detailed Hours Overview and Employee Timesheet.

10. Please identify the names, addresses, employer, and job title of any individuals which communicated with the Plaintiff subsequent to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition.

RESPONSE: See attached emails.

15. All e-mails, faxes, messages, internet communication, memos, or similar communication between Fairfield and Fairfield's employees and/or agents concerning the incident alleged in Plaintiffs' Petition. Note: said request does not include any communications with Fairfield's counsel.

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached emails.

16. Any documents concerning this Incident provided to any third person by Fairfield immediately following said Incident, excluding those to attorneys.

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached emails.

17. A copy of any logs, sign-in sheets, or time cards which reflect the identity of all individual employees, agents, or contractors on the loading dock on December 19, 2019.

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Detailed Hours Overview and Employee Timesheet.

20. All documents, materials, company manuals, company issued rules and regulations, directives or notices in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Defendants in controlling their employees and/or agents' work, activities, job performance, regarding supervision and operation of the loading dock and any safety precautions associated therewith.

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Chocking Procedures.

21. Any of Defendant's officers', executives' or administrators' directives, bulletins or written instruments in reference to the day to day operating procedures or policy relating to the supervision and operation of the loading dock on which Plaintiff alleges her incident occurred.

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Chocking Procedures.

22. Any and all documents which reflect Defendants' policies, procedures, safety rules, regulations, or standing orders regarding the inspection, supervision, and operation of the loading dock in effect on December 19, 2019.

RESPONSE: See previously filed Objection. The alleged incident allegedly occurred on December 18, 2019 according to the written statement of Plaintiff. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Chocking Procedures.

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398

jmazzei@bjpc.com

800 Market Street, Suite 1100

St. Louis, Missouri, 63101

(314) 421-3400

(314) 421-3128 (fax)

Attorneys for Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation

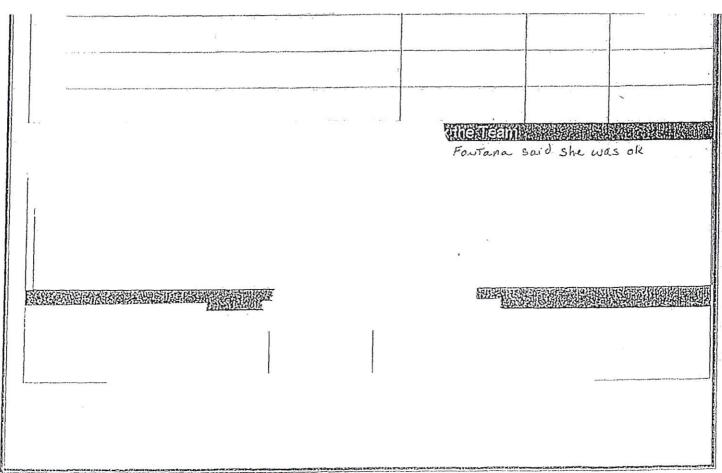
Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 171 of 418 PageID #: 176

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, the foregoing was served electronically to john@caglellc.com. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM 26355483.1



Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 173 of 418 PageID #: 178 INCIDENT INVESTIGATION FORM Employee claims she jumped of a trailer

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### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	
Plaintiff,	) )
vs.	) ) Case No. 4:21-cv-1464
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	St. Louis County Circuit Court Cause No. 2022-CC10591
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC,	) )
Defendants.	) )

#### **NOTICE TO STATE COURT**

TO: The Circuit Court of the City of St. Louis, State of Missouri:

You are hereby notified that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation, by and through their attorneys, have filed their Notice of Removal in the above-captioned cause in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Eastern Division, via ECF, on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021. A copy of said Notice of Removal is attached hereto and is hereby served upon you.

#### **BROWN & JAMES, P.C.**

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei # 51398
imazzei@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys for Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

27000285.1/jbk

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### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	) )
vs.	) )
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) St. Louis City Circuit Court ) Cause No. 2022-CC10591
and	) )
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC,	) )
Defendants.	) )

### **NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant Fairfield"), by and through counsel, and for its Notice of Removal, states the following:

- 1. On December 21, 2020, Plaintiff filed an original Petition in the Circuit Court of the City of St. Louis, State of Missouri, Cause No. 2022-CC10591, against Defendant Fairfield and Defendant Venture Express, Inc. See Petition attached to State Court Pleadings, Exhibit A.
- 2. Plaintiff is a resident and citizen of the State of Missouri. See Petition and First Amended Petition attached to State Court Pleadings, Exhibit A.
- 3. At the time of the commencement of said action and ever since, Defendant Fairfield has been and still is a foreign corporation, existing under the laws of the State of Connecticut with its principal place of business in the State of Connecticut, not having its chief and principal office and place of business in the State of Missouri, and is not a citizen or resident of the State of Missouri. See Petition and First Amended Petition attached to State Court Pleadings, Exhibit A.

Electronically Filed - City of St. Louis - December 15, 2021 - 08:37 AM

- 4. At the time of the commencement of said action and ever since, Defendant Venture Express, Inc. has been and still is a foreign corporation, existing under the laws of the State of Tennessee with its principal place of business in the State of Tennessee, not having its chief and principal office and place of business in the State of Missouri, and is not a citizen or resident of the State of Missouri. See Petition attached to State Court Pleadings, Exhibit A.
- 5. On March 10, 2021, Plaintiff filed a First Amended Petition against Defendant Fairfield and Defendant Venture Express, LLC. See First Amended Petition attached to State Court Pleadings, Exhibit A.
- 6. At the time of the commencement of said action and ever since, Defendant Venture Express, LLC ("Defendant Venture") has been and still is a foreign corporation, existing under the laws of the State of Kansas with its principal place of business in the State of Kansas, not having its chief and principal office and place of business in the State of Missouri, and is not a citizen or resident of the State of Missouri. See First Amended Petition attached to State Court Pleadings, Exhibit A.
- 7. On April 27, 2021, Defendant Venture was served with the First Amended Petition. See Affidavit of Service attached to State Court Pleadings, Exhibit A.
- 8. Plaintiff alleges damages of past medical expenses, permanent and disabling injuries, permanent and disabling injuries in the future, past lost wages, future medical expenses, future medical treatment, surgical intervention, future lost wages, scarring, and disfigurement. See Petition and First Amended Petition attached to State Court Pleadings, Exhibit A.
- 9. Plaintiff's claim for damages exceeds the statutory minimum requirement of \$75,000.00 for diversity jurisdiction as evidenced by the attached e-mail from Plaintiff's counsel, in which he alleges Plaintiff has past medical expenses in excess of \$75,000. See 12/13/21 E-Mail from Plaintiff's Counsel, Exhibit B.

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10. This Notice of Removal has been timely filed within one year pursuant to 28 U.S.C.

§1446.

11. Because complete diversity of citizenship exists between Plaintiff and Defendants,

and because the amount in controversy in this action exceeds the sum of \$75.000, removal to

this Court is proper pursuant to 28 US.C. §1332 and 28 U.S.C. §1446.

12. Furthermore, venue is proper in the Eastern Division of this Court as the alleged

injury from which Plaintiff claims arises is alleged to have occurred in the City of St. Louis,

Missouri, as evidenced in paragraph 6 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

13. Promptly after filing this Notice of Removal, Defendant Fairfield gave written notice

thereof to the attorney for Plaintiff, as did the Clerk of the Court of the City of St. Louis, Missouri,

as provided both with copies of this Notice of Removal.

14. All pleadings and papers which have been filed in the state court action are

attached to this Notice of Removal as Exhibit A.

WHEREFORE, Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation requests the above-

referenced state court action be removed from the Circuit Court of the City of St. Louis, to this

honorable Court, and that this honorable Court accept jurisdiction of the case, and for any other

relief this Court deems just and proper.

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei

John A. Mazzei #51398MO

jmazzei@bjpc.com

800 Market Street, Suite 1100

St. Louis, Missouri, 63101

(314) 421-3400

(314) 421-3128 (fax)

**Attorneys for Defendant** 

**Fairfield Processing Corporation** 

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 179 of 418 PageID #: 184

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

<u>/s/ John A. Mazzei</u>

27000356.1/jbk

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# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
	)
Plaintiff	)
VS.	) )
	) Cause No.:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION;	)
Serve Registered Agent:	
Sanford D. Kaufman	
301 Main Street, Third Floor	) PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL
Danbury CT, 06810	BY JURY ON ALL COUNTS
&	
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.	) )
Serve Registered Agent:	)
Shawn Applegate	)
131 Industrial Blvd.	)
La Vergne, TN 37086	)
Defendants.	)

### **PETITION**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff") by and through by and through her attorneys of record and pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules and Rules of Civil Procedure, and for her Petition against Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), and Venture Ex ("Axiom Equities") and Defendant Venture Express, Inc. ("Venture"), and states to this Honorable Court as follows:

### FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- 1. Plaintiff is an individual, citizen, and resident of Missouri.
- 2. Fairfield is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Connecticut and based upon information and belief Fairfield's principal place of business is in the State of Missouri.



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3. Fairfield may be served through its registered agent, Sanford D. Kaufman at 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Danbury CT, 06810.

- 4. Venture is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Tennessee with its principal place of business in the state of Tennessee.
- 5. Venture may be served through its registered agent, Shawn Applegate at 131 Industrial Blvd. La Vergne, TN 37086.
- 6. The incident alleged herein occurred on or about December 19, 2019 at between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the loading dock of the premises owned and operated by Fairfield located at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri ("Premises").
- 7. As a corporation, Fairfield acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Fairfield.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Fairfield was acting individually and through its agents, servants, and/or employees, whom were acting within the course and scope of their employment with Fairfield at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 9. Venture is a corporation involved in interstate commerce, and did and does at all times alleged herein avail itself to the benefits of the State of Missouri's highways and roadways to conduct interstate commerce.
- 10. As a corporation Venture acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Venture.

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11. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Venture was acting individually and through its agent, servant, and/or employee, whom was acting within the course and scope of his employment with Venture at the time of the incident alleged herein.

- 12. Venue is proper with this Court pursuant to RSMo. § 508.010 since the negligent actions and omissions alleged herein occurred within St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 13. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action since the incident alleged herein occurred in St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 14. On December 19, 2019, Fairfield owned or controlled the management of 6432 Prescott Ave.; St. Louis, Missouri 643147 ("Premises").
- 15. At all times alleged herein Plaintiff was working on said premises as an employee for ProLogistix.
- 16. At said date and time, Plaintiff was attempting to disconnect a ramp attaching a commercial vehicle owned by Venture from the loading dock attached to Premises.
- 17. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect said ramp, she maintained one foot in the trailer attached to Venture's vehicle and the other on the dock.
- 18. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect the ramp, the driver of said commercial vehicle, and employee of Venture, ("Driver") became distracted and failed to notice that the ramp remained attached and that Plaintiff was still partially inside the vehicle.
- 19. Driver then pulled away from said dock forcing Plaintiff to leap to safety to avoid falling into the gap between the truck and the dock.
- 20. No employee of Fairfield attempted to warn Driver that Plaintiff stood partially within the trailer.

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21. At no point did any employee of Fairfield attempt to stop Driver from pulling away from the dock.

- 22. At no point before Driver pulled away did any employee of Fairfield attempt to warn Plaintiff of the movement of the tractor trailer and/or the hazardous condition being created.
- 23. As Plaintiff leaped from the truck to the dock, she landed hyperextending her left knee and pulling and tearing the ligaments and tendons attached thereto.
- 24. As a direct result of one or more of Defendants' failures Plaintiff sustained damages.
- 25. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence alleged herein, Plaintiff, was caused to suffer serious, permanent, and disabling injuries to her left leg, knee, and the ligaments, muscles, and tendons attached thereto.
- 26. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligent acts and omissions of the Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred past medical expenses in excess of \$40,000.00.
  - 27. Plaintiff will incur further medical expenses in the future.
- 28. That Plaintiff has been caused to suffer painful, permanent and disabling injuries to the aforementioned areas of her body and will continue to suffer from these painful, permanent and disabling injuries in the future as a result of the fall as alleged herein and will need to undergo medical treatment in the future.
- 29. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff's activities and her enjoyment of life has been limited.
- 30. That as a direct and proximate cause of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff required surgical intervention.

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31. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred scarring and disfigurement.

- 32. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has lost past wages.
- 33. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff will suffer future loss of wages.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

# <u>COUNT I</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANTS VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count I of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

34. That the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Driver was acting in the course and scope of his employment with Venture. Thus, at the time of the crash alleged herein Driver was an agent, servant, and/or employee of Venture and as such, Venture is vicariously liable for the actions and omissions of Driver, its agent, servant, and/or employee.

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35. At the time of this crash, Driver was an agent, servant and/or employee under the control, right of control, joint and mutual control, or joint and mutual right of control of Venture and as such all of the acts of negligence on his part were committed within the course and scope of his agency and employment with Venture.

- 36. At the time of the incident alleged herein, Venture, through its agents, servants, and employees including, but not limited to Driver were negligent, careless, and breached their duty of care to the general public and Plaintiff on the date alleged herein in one or more of the following respects:
  - a. Failed to have the motor vehicle under proper control;
  - b. Failed to keep a proper lookout and pay attention;
  - c. Operated the tractor while distracted, tired or fatigued;
  - d. Operated the tractor without adequate training, experience, or qualifications;
  - e. Drove while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs;
  - f. Failing to exercise the highest degree of care under the circumstances.
- 37. Each of the negligent acts or omissions by Venture, as alleged herein was a direct and proximate cause of the incident and the resulting injuries and damages to Plaintiff.
- 38. The actions of Venture as alleged herein showed a complete indifference to or conscious disregard for the safety of Plaintiff and other human beings.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

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# <u>COUNT II</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANTS FAIRFIELD PROCESSING.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count II of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

- 39. On February 17, 2019, Fairfield owned, controlled, or possessed Premises where Plaintiff worked as an independent contractor.
- 40. That at the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Fairfield oversaw the work of contracted temporary employees such as Plaintiff and held a responsibility to maintain a reasonably safe working environment.
- 41. That at the time of this incident, Fairfield, through its agents, servants, and employees:
  - a. Failed to adopt or implement policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock.
- 42. In the alternative to and/or in addition to the allegations of paragraph 40, Fairfield:
  - a. Failed to notify its employees, agents, or contractors, of any policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - b. Failed to properly supervise its employees, agents, or contractors working on the loading dock;
  - c. Failed to properly train its employees, agents, or contractors regarding any policies, procedures, or standing orders set in place to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - d. Failed to notify Driver before he pulled away from the dock that Plaintiff was still inside the trailer; and
  - e. Failed to warn Plaintiff that Driver was pulling away from the dock.

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43. That such failures and omissions created a foreseeable likelihood of a harm or injury.

- 44. That in so doing, Fairfield was thereby negligent.
- 45. That as a direct and proximate result of such negligence, Plaintiff sustained the damages alleged above.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: REX M BURLISON	Ca	ase Number: 2022-CC10591		Special Process Server 1
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE	JC	laintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Add DHN S APPELBAUM D5 FOREST GLADE MPERIAL, MO 63052		Special Process Server 2 Special Process Server 3
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CO Nature of Suit:	DRP CO	ourt Address: IVIL COURTS BUILDING ON TUCKER BLVD		(Date File Stamp)
CC Pers Injury-Other	·	AINT LOUIS, MO 63101  Service Outside the State	of Missour	i
Julin.		ept Attachment Action)	or missour	
The State of Missouri to: FAI Alias C/O SANFORD D KAUFMAN RAGT 301 MAIN STREET 3RD FLOOR DANBURY, CT 06810	= · <del>-</del>	CORP		
whice plair you, take	th is attached, and to so htiff/petitioner at the ab exclusive of the day o	pear before this court and to file y serve a copy of your pleading upo bove address all within 30 days a of service. If you fail to file your pl elief demanded in this action.	on the attorney fer service of the	for the nis summons upon
CITY OF ST LOUIS	Date er Information:		Clerk	
2. My official title is	process in civil actions we summons by: (check one the summons and a copy of summons and a copy of the thin the cars who permanently researes who permanently research the content of the	of the petition to the defendant/resp f the petition at the dwelling place or , a person of sides with the defendant/respondent by of the summons and a copy of the	county, condent. usual abode of the defendant's/ petition to	ne (respondent's family
other:				(address)
Served atin		(state), on	(date) at _	
Printed Name of S Subso I ar (Seal)	ribed and sworn to beform: (check one)	fore me this (day) clerk of the court of which affiant is a udge of the court of which affiant is a orized to administer oaths in the stat mons. (use for out-of-state officer) orized to administer oaths. (use for	n officer. n officer. e in which the aff	onth) (year).
			Signature and Title	
Service Fees Summons \$ Non Est \$ Mileage \$ Total \$	(	miles @ \$ per mile)		
	following page for directi	ions to officer making return on servi	e of summons.	

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#### Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.



#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: REX M BURLISON	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	Special Process Server 1
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE vs.	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address: JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE IMPERIAL, MO 63052	Special Process Server 2 Special Process Server 3
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORP	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING	(Date File Stamp)
Nature of Suit: CC Pers Injury-Other	10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	
Summons for Persor	nal Service Outside the State of Misso	uri

	(Except	Attachment Action)	and the state of t	
The State of Missouri to:	VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.			
C/O SHAWN APPLEGATE RA 131 INDUSTRIAL BLVD LA VERGNE, TN 37086				
COURT SEAL OF	You are summoned to appear which is attached, and to serv plaintiff/petitioner at the above you, exclusive of the day of setaken against you for the relie December 29, 202	re a copy of your pleading e address all within 30 day ervice. If you fail to file you of demanded in this action	upon the attorney for the vs after service of this summo ur pleading, judgment by defar	ns upon
	Date Further Information:		Clerk	
		rver's Affidavit of Servic	P	
2. My official title is 3. I have served the a delivering a copy leaving a copy defendant/resp over the age of (for service on other:	serve process in civil actions within bove summons by: (check one) by of the summons and a copy of the summons and a copy of the ondent with 15 years who permanently reside a corporation) delivering a copy of	the petition to the defendant/e petition at the dwelling place, a persons with the defendant/respond f the summons and a copy of (name)	County,County, /respondent. e or usual abode of the on of the defendant's/respondent dent. f the petition to	(state). 's family (title).
	County,			
Printed Nan	ne of Sheriff or Server  Bubscribed and sworn to before I am: (check one)	me this (day) tof the court of which affiant e of the court of which affiant	Signature of Sheriff or Server (month) is an officer. is an officer. state in which the affiant served	(year).
Service Fees				-
Summons         \$           Non Est         \$           Mileage         \$           Total         \$	ee the following page for directions	miles @ \$ per mi		

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#### Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,		)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING	CORPORATION	)	D17101011.
		)	Plaintiff Demands Jury Tria
		)	On All Counts
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.		)	
	Defendants.	)	

#### **REQUEST FOR ALIAS SUMMONS**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, by and through her attorneys of record, The Cagle Law Firm, and requests an alias summons be issued on Defendants Fairfield Processing Corporation to Sanford D. Kaufman at 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Danbury CT, 06810, and Venture Express, Inc. to Shawn Applegate at 131 Industrial Blvd., La Vergne, TN 37086.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

John S. Appellaym Jr., MO #71766

john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 193 of 418 PageID #: 198



#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE vs.	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address: JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE IMPERIAL, MO 63052	
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Nature of Suit:	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING 10 N TUCKER BLVD	(Date File Stamp)
CC Pers Injury-Other	SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	·
A Control of the Cont	sonal Service Outside the State of Miss	souri
The State of Missouri to: VENTURE EXPRESS, IN		
Alias: C/O SHAWN APPLEGATE RAGT 131 INDUSTRIAL BLVD LA VERGNE, TN 37086		
which is attached, and to plaintiff/petitioner at the you, exclusive of the day	ppear before this court and to file your pleading to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney above address all within 30 days after service of y of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgmerelief demanded in this action.	for the his summons upon
Date Further Information:	Clerk	
I certify that:  1. I am authorized to serve process in civil actions 2. My official title is 3. I have served the above summons by: (check delivering a copy of the summons and a co leaving a copy of the summons and a copy defendant/respondent with over the age of 15 years who permanently (for service on a corporation) delivering a co	copy of the summons and a copy of the petition to (name)	the /respondent's family
Served atCounty,	(state), on (date) at	
l am: (check one)	Signature of Sheri (day) (no e clerk of the court of which affiant is an officer. e judge of the court of which affiant is an officer. In thorized to administer oaths in the state in which the attenuation (use for out-of-state officer) of thorized to administer oaths. (use for court-appointed officer)	fiant served the above
Service Fees Summons \$ Non Est \$ Mileage \$ (	Signature and Titlemiles @ \$ per mile) ections to officer making return on service of summons.	:

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#### Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.





#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE  vs.	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address: JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE IMPERIAL, MO 63052	
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Nature of Suit: CC Pers Injury-Other	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING 10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	(Date File Stamp)
ALIAS Summons for Pers	sonal Service Outside the State of Mis	souri
(Ex The State of Missouri to: FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN	ccept Attachment Action) G CORPORATION	
Alias: C/O SANFORD D KAUFMAN RAGT 301 MAIN STREET 3RD FLOOR DANBURY, CT 06810		
which is attached, and to plaintiff/petitioner at the you, exclusive of the day taken against you for the January 28, 2	appear before this court and to file your pleading to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney above address all within 30 days after service of y of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgme relief demanded in this action.  2021  Clerk	y for the this summons upon nent by default will be
Further Information:	or Server's Affidavit of Service	
<ul> <li>2. My official title is</li></ul>	copy of the summons and a copy of the petition to	the s/respondent's family
other:		•
Served atCounty,	(state), on (date) at	(address)
I am: (check one)   the   the   the   au   steel   s	Signature of She coefore me this	month) (year).  affiant served the above
Service Fees Summons \$ Non Est \$ Mileage \$ ( Total \$ See the following page for directions and the second secon	miles @ \$ per mile) ections to officer making return on service of summons.	

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#### **Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons**

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

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# In the

CIRCUIT COURT City of St. Louis, Missouri		Γ	For File Stamp Only	٦
FONTANIA LAWRENCE	1 100 10004			
Plaintiff/Petitioner	1/29/2021			
	Date			
VS.	2022-CC10591			
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, Et. Al.	Case number			
Defendant/Respondent				
	Division	L		١

REQUES	<u>FOR</u>	<u>APPOIN</u>	ITMENT	OF P	ROCESS	SERVE	<u>=R</u>
now Plaintiff	f Fontania	Lawrence					

Comes now Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence		, pursuant
,	uesting Party	1
to Local Rule 14, requests the appointme		
Wyman Tracy Kroft	1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Eric Rubin	1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
to serve the summons and petition in this	s cause on the below named parties.	•
SERVE:	SERVE:	
Fairfield Processing Corporation,	Venture Express, Inc.	
Name 301 Main Street, Third Floor,	Name 131 Industrial Blvd.,	
Address Danbury CT, 06810	Address La Vergne, TN 37086.	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
SERVE:	SERVE:	
Name	Name	
Address	Address	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
Appointed as requested:		•
TOM KLOEPPINGER, Circuit Clerk	John S. Appelbaum Jr.,	
	Attorney/Plaintiff/Petitioner MO #71766	
By Deputy Clerk	Bar No. 500 North Broadway, Ste. 16	05 St. Louis, MO 6
3-4-21	Address (314) 241-1700	
Date	Phone No.	

L

For File Stamp Only

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 198 of 418 PageID #: 203

## In the

Date

## **CIRCUIT COURT**

## City of St. Louis, Missouri

NEARLY AND ENGE	The Court of the C	
NTANIA LAWRENCE ntiff/Petitioner	1/29/2021	
Hull/Fettuonel	Date	
	2022-CC10591	
RFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, Et. Al.	Case number	
endant/Respondent		
endani/nespondent	Division	
		L
REQUEST FOR APPOINT	MENT OF PROCESS	SERVER
Comes now Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence		, pursuant
Requ	esting Party	
to Local Rule 14, requests the appointme Wyman Tracy Kroft	ent by the Circuit Clerk of 1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Eric Rubin	1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
to serve the summons and petition in this	cause on the below named pa	•
SERVE:	SERVE:	
Fairfield Processing Corporation,	Venture Express, Inc.	
Name 301 Main Street, Third Floor,	Name 131 Industrial Blvd.,	
Address Danbury CT, 06810	Address La Vergne, TN 37086.	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
SERVE:	SERVE:	
Name	Name	
Address	Address	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
Appointed as requested:		
TOM KLOEPPINGER, Circuit Clerk	John S. Appelbaum Jr.	
	Attorney/Plaintiff/Petitione MO #71766	er
By	Bar No.	Ste. 1605 St. Louis, MO 6
Deputy Clerk	Address (314) 241-1700	5.0. 1000 St. Louis, WO 0
	(314) 241-1700	

Phone No.

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 199 of 418 PageID #: 204

#### RULE 14 SPECIAL PROCESS SERVERS

- 1. Any person appointed by the Court or the Circuit Clerk to serve process must have a license issued pursuant to this rule to serve process.
- 2. Licenses to serve process shall be issued by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis if the applicant has met the following qualifications:
  - a. Is twenty-one years of age or older;
  - b. Has a high school diploma or an equivalent level of education;
  - c. Has insurance coverage for any errors or omissions occurring in the service of process;
  - d. Has not been convicted, pleaded guilty to or been found guilty of any felony, or of any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude; and,
  - e. Has passed a training course for the service of process which shall be administered by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis.
- 3. Each applicant for a process server license under the provisions of this rule shall provide an affidavit setting forth such person's legal name, current address, any other occupations and current telephone numbers. Licensed process servers shall immediately notify the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis of any change in the above information, and the failure to do so shall constitute good cause for the revocation of such person's license.
- 4. The Sheriff of the City of St. Louis shall maintain a list of persons licensed to serve process pursuant to this rule, and shall make such list available to litigants upon request.
- 5. A photo identification card designed by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis shall be issued in addition to the license. No other identification will be allowed. All licenses must be signed and approved by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis and the Presiding Judge or his designee.
- 6. A license fee recommended by the Sheriff and approved by the Court En Banc shall be charged to cover the costs of compiling and maintaining the list of process servers and for the training of such process servers. The license fees shall be made payable to the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis.

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- 7. A license for service of process issued under this rule may be revoked by the Sheriff with the approval of the Presiding Judge or his designee, for any of the following reasons:
  - a. Misrepresentation of duty or authority;
  - b. Conviction, guilty plea or finding of guilty of any state or federal felony, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
  - c. Improper use of the license;
  - d. Making a false return; or
  - e. Any other good cause.

Provided, no service of process made by an appointed process server with a revoked license shall be void if the Court or Circuit Clerk made the appointment in good faith without knowledge of the license revocation.

- 8. Any person authorized to serve process may carry a concealed firearm as allowed by Section 506.145, RSMo, only while actually engaged in the service of process and only if the person has passed a firearms qualification test approved by a law enforcement agency; provided, however, that any licensed special process server may file a written waiver of the right to carry a concealed firearm and thereby avoid the requirements of firearm training and testing. Any violation of this section shall be considered beyond the scope of the privilege to carry a concealed weapon that is granted by the appointment, and shall constitute good cause for the revocation of the license.
- 9. Applications for the appointment of a special process server shall be made on forms available in the offices of the Sheriff and Circuit Clerk. Orders Appointing special process servers may list more than one licensed server as alternatives.
- 10. The licenses granted pursuant to this rule shall be good for two years. Each person granted a license shall be required to reapply at the expiration of the license and shall be required to provide all the information required in the initial application, including a current police record check.

(Approved 9/28/92; amended 11/23/92; 5/31/95; 12/17/07)

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#### **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

State of Missouri	county of Gaint Louis (City)	Circuit Court
Case Number: 2022-CC10591		
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE vs.		
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION	I, et al.	
Received by HPS Process Service & Investign D. Kaufman, Registered Agent, 301 Main (Light Main), being duly sworn, depose (1): 10 Pr.m., executed service by delivering State of Missouri (Except Attachment Action accordance with state statutes in the manne	Street, 3rd Floor, Danbury, CT 06810, and say that on thed day of a true copy of the Alias Summons for F ) Petition; and Request for Appointment	I, <u>EMC</u> <u>Phylon , 20 21</u> at Personal Service Outside the
() REGISTERED AGENT SERVICE: By ser as	vingfor the above-named entity.	addente address to the subsections of the sec
() RECORDS CUSTODIAN SERVICE: By s	erving	
W CORPORATE SERVICE: By serving as Legal ASSS antifleathorize	Dan e a Y acquait ed for the above-named entity.	response to the second
() OTHER SERVICE: As described in the Co	omments below.	
() NON SERVICE: For the reason detailed in	the Comments below <sub>s</sub>	
COMMENTS:		
I certify that I have no interest in the above a which this service was made.		
	<b>©</b> ?	
Subscribed and Sworn to before me on the of February, 700 by the affiant was personally known to me.	day PROCESS SERVEF Appointed in accord	R#ance with State Statutes
NOTARY PUBLIC CHANTY J. C.	www.hpsprocess.d 1669 Jefferson Kansas City, MO 64	
MY COMMISSION E	Our Joh Sarial Num	her: 2021003292

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#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

	·			
Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-GC10591			
Plaintiff/Petitioner:	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address:			
FONTANIA LAWRENCE	JOHN S APPELBAUM	Table 1		
	105 FOREST GLADE			
VS.	IMPERIAL, MO 63052	overlander)		
Defendant/Respondent:	Court Address:	10 1 E! O!		
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION	CIVIL COURTS BUILDING	(Date File Stamp)		
	10 N TUCKER BLVD			
Nature of Suit:	SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101			
CC Pers Injury-Other				
Table 1	rsonal Service Outside the State of Mis	souri.		
The State of Missouri to: FAIRFIELD PROCESSII				
C/O SANFORD D KAUFMAN RAGT				
301 MAIN STREET 3RD FLOOR DANBURY, CT 06810				
COURT SEAL OF You are summoned to	appear before this court and to file your pleading t	o the petition, copy of		
	to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney			
plaintiff/petitioner at the	above address all within 30 days after service of	this summons upon		
	by of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgm			
	ne relief demanded in this action.	•		
January 28,	2021	a December to suite to the		
CITY OF ST LOUIS	2021 Thomas Illo	77.77.		
Date Further Information:	Clerk	· · · · · ·		
	or Server's Affidavit of Service			
I certify that:	of Server's Affidavit of Service			
	ns within the state or territory where the above summon	swas served .		
2. My official title is Process Sewier	of 104/000 County,	Chronocticut (state).		
3. I have served the above summons by: (check one)				
	copy of the petition to the defendant/respondent.			
	y of the petition at the dwelling place or usual abode of			
defendant/respondent with	, a person of the defendant's	s/respondent's family		
over the age of 15 years who permanently				
(for service on a corporation) delivering a	copy of the summons and a copy of the petition to	Markey and war		
The second secon	(name) <u>logal Assistant Mu</u>	<u> </u>		
Served at 361 Man Shred 3rd	floor, Danbury, CTA6810	(address)		
		,		
in Hart and County, C	DYMOCICIT (state), on 102 110 202 (date) at	10 . (0 1411 (time).		
Par Da Kni				
Printed Name of Sheriff or Server	Signature of Sher	riff or Server		
Subscribed and sworn to		nonth) <u>2.02</u> (year).		
	ne clerk of the court of which afflant is an officer.			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ne judge of the court of which affiant is an officer.			
n a	uthorized to administer oaths in the state in which the a	ffiant served the above		
	summons. (use for out-of-state officer)	•		
	outhorized to administer oaths. (use for court-appointed			
		Poceti Sim		
	Signature and Tit			
Service Fees				
Summons \$ Non Est \$		×		
Mileage \$	miles @ \$ per mile)			
Total \$		v		

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#### **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

State of Missouri	County of Saint I	_ouis (City)	Circuit Court
Case Number: 2022-CC10591			
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE vs. Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORA	ATION, et al.		
Received by HPS Process Service & In D. Kaufman, Registered Agent, 301 In Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark	Main Street, 3rd Floor epose and say that on the vering a true copy of the Action) Petition; and Re	, <b>Danbury, CT 06810.</b> I, he <u> ட</u> ிசி day of <u>டிடிப</u> a Alias Summons for Persor	<i>EMC_</i> (ut]_, 20_2/_ at hal Service Outside the
( ) REGISTERED AGENT SERVICE: B	By servingfor the above	e-named entity.	SUITAMAN, DIVIA
( ) RECORDS CUSTODIAN SERVICE as	for the above	e-named entity.	unerary designation of the state of the stat
(X) CORPORATE SERVICE: By serving DANICA WAGUOUT as LEGAL HOSYSTON Action red for the above-named entity.			
() OTHER SERVICE: As described in			
() NON SERVICE: For the reason deta	illed in the Comments b	elow <sub>s</sub>	
COMMENTS:			
I certify that I have no interest in the at which this service was made.			
* **	the 17 <sup>th</sup> day fiant who is  L. CHANTRY  ARY PUBLIC SHOW EXPIRES 3/31/2023	PROCESS SERVER #_Appointed in accordance where the service & www.hpsprocess.com 1669 Jefferson Kansas City, MO 64108 (800) 796-9559	Investigations
		Our Job Serial Number: 2	021003292

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#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE vs	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address: JOHN S APPELBAUM 105 FOREST GLADE IMPERIAL, MO 63052	
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Nature of Suit: CC Pers Injury-Other	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING 10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	(Date File Stamp)
ALIAS Summons for Pe	ersonal Service Outside the State of Mi	issouri
The State of Missouri to: FAIRFIELD PROCESS	Except Attachment Action)	
Alias: C/O SANFORD D KAUFMAN RAGT 301 MAIN STREET 3RD FLOOR DANBURY, CT 06810	ING CORFORATION	
You are summoned to appear before this court and to file your pleading to the petition, copy of which is attached, and to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney for the plaintiff/petitioner at the above address all within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in this action.  January 28, 2021  Date  Cierk		
CITY OF ST LOUIS  Date Further Information:	Clerk	anguning for a ffect information of the formation of the contraction o
I certify that:  1. I am authorized to serve process in civil actic 2. My official title is <u>Process Sewer</u> 3. I have served the above summons by: (chec delivering a copy of the summons and a condefendant/respondent with over the age of 15 years who permanent (for service on a corporation) delivering to ther:  Served at 301 Man Shreet 300 in Printed Name of Sheriff or Server Subscribed and sworn to	ck one) copy of the petition to the defendant/respondent. opy of the petition at the dwelling place or usual abode, a person of the defendant tly resides with the defendant/respondent. a copy of the summons and a copy of the petition to	of the nt's/respondent's family  (address)  at 10:10 AW (title).  e affiant served the above ed server)
Service Fees	Signature and	1.00e
Summons \$ Non Est \$ Mileage \$ Total \$ See the following page for one of the second sec	miles @ \$ per mile)	S,

Γ

For File Stamp Only

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#### In the

## **CIRCUIT COURT**

### City of St. Louis, Missouri

Oity of Ot. Louis, Missouri			
FONTANIA LAWRENCE			
Plaintiff/Petitioner	1/29/2021		
	Date		
vs.	2022-CC10591		
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, Et. Al.	Case number		
Defendant/Respondent	Division		
		L	_

REQUEST FOR APPOINT	MENT OF PRO	CESS SERVER
---------------------	-------------	-------------

Comes now Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence		, pursuant
F	Requesting Party	· I
to Local Rule 14, requests the appoint	tment by the Circuit Clerk of	
Wyman Tracy Kroft	1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Eric Rubin	1669 Jefferson Street	816.842.9800
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
Name of Process Server	Address	Telephone
to serve the summons and petition in t	this cause on the below named parti	ies.
SERVE: Venture Express, Inc.	SERVE:	
Name 304 Robert Rose Dr.	Name	
Address Murfreesboro, TN 37129	Address	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
SERVE:	SERVE:	
Name	Name	
Address	Address	
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	
Appointed as requested:		
TOM KLOEPPINGER, Circuit Clerk	John S. Appelbaum Jr.,	
,	Attorney/Plaintiff/Petitioner MO #71766	
By	Bar No.	1605 St. Louis MO 6
Deputy Clerk	500 North Broadway, Ste	. 1003 St. Louis, MO 0
	Address (314) 241-1700	
Data	Phone No	

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#### RULE 14 SPECIAL PROCESS SERVERS

- 1. Any person appointed by the Court or the Circuit Clerk to serve process must have a license issued pursuant to this rule to serve process.
- 2. Licenses to serve process shall be issued by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis if the applicant has met the following qualifications:
  - a. Is twenty-one years of age or older;
  - b. Has a high school diploma or an equivalent level of education;
  - c. Has insurance coverage for any errors or omissions occurring in the service of process;
  - d. Has not been convicted, pleaded guilty to or been found guilty of any felony, or of any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude; and,
  - e. Has passed a training course for the service of process which shall be administered by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis.
- 3. Each applicant for a process server license under the provisions of this rule shall provide an affidavit setting forth such person's legal name, current address, any other occupations and current telephone numbers. Licensed process servers shall immediately notify the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis of any change in the above information, and the failure to do so shall constitute good cause for the revocation of such person's license.
- 4. The Sheriff of the City of St. Louis shall maintain a list of persons licensed to serve process pursuant to this rule, and shall make such list available to litigants upon request.
- 5. A photo identification card designed by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis shall be issued in addition to the license. No other identification will be allowed. All licenses must be signed and approved by the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis and the Presiding Judge or his designee.
- 6. A license fee recommended by the Sheriff and approved by the Court En Banc shall be charged to cover the costs of compiling and maintaining the list of process servers and for the training of such process servers. The license fees shall be made payable to the Sheriff of the City of St. Louis.

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- 7. A license for service of process issued under this rule may be revoked by the Sheriff with the approval of the Presiding Judge or his designee, for any of the following reasons:
  - a. Misrepresentation of duty or authority;
  - b. Conviction, guilty plea or finding of guilty of any state or federal felony, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
  - c. Improper use of the license;
  - d. Making a false return; or
  - e. Any other good cause.

Provided, no service of process made by an appointed process server with a revoked license shall be void if the Court or Circuit Clerk made the appointment in good faith without knowledge of the license revocation.

- 8. Any person authorized to serve process may carry a concealed firearm as allowed by Section 506.145, RSMo, only while actually engaged in the service of process and only if the person has passed a firearms qualification test approved by a law enforcement agency; provided, however, that any licensed special process server may file a written waiver of the right to carry a concealed firearm and thereby avoid the requirements of firearm training and testing. Any violation of this section shall be considered beyond the scope of the privilege to carry a concealed weapon that is granted by the appointment, and shall constitute good cause for the revocation of the license.
- 9. Applications for the appointment of a special process server shall be made on forms available in the offices of the Sheriff and Circuit Clerk. Orders Appointing special process servers may list more than one licensed server as alternatives.
- 10. The licenses granted pursuant to this rule shall be good for two years. Each person granted a license shall be required to reapply at the expiration of the license and shall be required to provide all the information required in the initial application, including a current police record check.

(Approved 9/28/92; amended 11/23/92; 5/31/95; 12/17/07)

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRE	NCE,	
	Plaintiff, )	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.	)	
	)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCES	SSING CORPORATION )	
	)	Plaintiff Demands Jury Tria
	)	On All Counts
And	)	
VENTURE EXPRESS	) S, INC. )	
	Defendants.	

#### **REQUEST FOR ALIAS SUMMONS**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, by and through her attorneys of record, The Cagle Law Firm, and requests an alias summons be issued on Defendant Venture Express, Inc. to Shawn Applegate at 304 Robert Rose Dr., Murfreesboro, TN 37129.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

By OH

John S. Appellaum Jr., MO #71766

john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738 Attorneys for Plaintiff Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 209 of 418 PageID #: 214

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRE	INCE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	
		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCES	SSING CORPORATION	)	
Et. Al.		)	
		)	
	Defendants.	)	

#### RULE 67.02(a) DISMISSAL OF VENTURE EXPRESS INC. WITHOUT PREJUDICE

COMES NOW Plaintiff by and through her attorneys of record and dismisses only Defendant Venture Express Inc., *without* prejudice pursuant to Rule 67.02(a). Said dismissal in no way impacts allegations against Venture Express LLC or Fairfield Processing.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

John S. Appellaym Jr., MO #71766

john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff	
vs.	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION;	) Cause No., 2022-CC10391
&	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC. Defendants.	) ) )

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SHAWN APPLEGATE

I, Shawn Applegate being first duly sworn and upon my oath, state and swear as follows:

- 1. I am over eighteen years of age, I am competent to testify, of sound mind, and I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this Affidavit.
  - 2. I am the chief legal officer and general counsel for Venture Express, Inc.
- 3. Upon review of said records and investigation, I have determined that to the best of my knowledge and belief that on December 19, 2019:
  - a. Venture Express Inc. had no company trucks travelling to the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri with the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri as its final destination;
  - b. Venture Express Inc. had no company drivers travelling to the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri with the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri as his/her final destination;
  - c. Venture Express Inc. had no customers located in the city limits of St. Louis, Missouri; and
    - d. Venture Express Inc. has no relationship with Fairfield Processing which

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might lead a truck owned by Venture Express Inc. and operated by one of its drivers to be on the premises of Fairfield Processing on said date.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAITH NOT.

SHAWN APPLEGATE

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me on this / O day of March, 2021.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE, )	
)	
Plaintiff )	
vs.	
)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION;	
Serve Registered Agent:	
Sanford D. Kaufman	
301 Main Street, Third Floor	PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL
Danbury CT, 06810 )	<b>BY JURY ON ALL COUNTS</b>
&	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC )	
Serve Registered Agent:	
Dennis Rweikiza,	
10211 E Countryside Cir.	
Wichita, KS 67207	
Defendants.	

#### **FIRST AMENDED PETITION**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff") by and through by and through her attorneys of record and pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules and Rules of Civil Procedure, and for her Petition against Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), and Defendant Venture Express, Inc. ("Venture"), and states to this Honorable Court as follows:

#### FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- 1. Plaintiff is an individual, citizen, and resident of Missouri.
- 2. Fairfield is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Connecticut and based upon information and belief Fairfield's principal place of business is in the State of Missouri.
- 3. Fairfield may be served through its registered agent, Sanford D. Kaufman at 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Danbury CT, 06810.

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4. Venture is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Kansas with its principal place of business in the state of Kansas.

- 5. Venture may be served through its registered agent, Dennis Rweikiza at 10211 E Countryside Cir. Wichita, KS 67207.
- 6. The incident alleged herein occurred on or about December 19, 2019 at between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the loading dock of the premises owned and operated by Fairfield located at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri ("Premises").
- 7. As a corporation, Fairfield acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Fairfield.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Fairfield was acting individually and through its agents, servants, and/or employees, whom were acting within the course and scope of their employment with Fairfield at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 9. Venture is a corporation involved in interstate commerce, and did and does at all times alleged herein avail itself to the benefits of the State of Missouri's highways and roadways to conduct interstate commerce.
- 10. As a corporation Venture acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Venture.

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11. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Venture was acting individually and through its agent, servant, and/or employee, whom was acting within the course and scope of his employment with Venture at the time of the incident alleged herein.

- 12. Venue is proper with this Court pursuant to RSMo. § 508.010 since the negligent actions and omissions alleged herein occurred within St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 13. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action since the incident alleged herein occurred in St. Louis City, State of Missouri.
- 14. On December 19, 2019, Fairfield owned or controlled the management of 6432 Prescott Ave.; St. Louis, Missouri 643147 ("Premises").
- 15. At all times alleged herein Plaintiff was working on said premises as an employee for ProLogistix.
- 16. At said date and time, Plaintiff was attempting to disconnect a ramp attaching a commercial vehicle owned by Venture from the loading dock attached to Premises.
- 17. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect said ramp, she maintained one foot in the trailer attached to Venture's vehicle and the other on the dock.
- 18. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect the ramp, the driver of said commercial vehicle, and employee of Venture, ("Driver") became distracted and failed to notice that the ramp remained attached and that Plaintiff was still partially inside the vehicle.
- 19. Driver then pulled away from said dock forcing Plaintiff to leap to safety to avoid falling into the gap between the truck and the dock.
- 20. No employee of Fairfield attempted to warn Driver that Plaintiff stood partially within the trailer.

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21. At no point did any employee of Fairfield attempt to stop Driver from pulling away from the dock.

- 22. At no point before Driver pulled away did any employee of Fairfield attempt to warn Plaintiff of the movement of the tractor trailer and/or the hazardous condition being created.
- 23. As Plaintiff leaped from the truck to the dock, she landed hyperextending her left knee and pulling and tearing the ligaments and tendons attached thereto.
- 24. As a direct result of one or more of Defendants' failures Plaintiff sustained damages.
- 25. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence alleged herein, Plaintiff, was caused to suffer serious, permanent, and disabling injuries to her left leg, knee, and the ligaments, muscles, and tendons attached thereto.
- 26. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligent acts and omissions of the Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred past medical expenses in excess of \$40,000.00.
  - 27. Plaintiff will incur further medical expenses in the future.
- 28. That Plaintiff has been caused to suffer painful, permanent and disabling injuries to the aforementioned areas of her body and will continue to suffer from these painful, permanent and disabling injuries in the future as a result of the fall as alleged herein and will need to undergo medical treatment in the future.
- 29. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff's activities and her enjoyment of life has been limited.
- 30. That as a direct and proximate cause of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff required surgical intervention.

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31. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred scarring and disfigurement.

- 32. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has lost past wages.
- 33. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff will suffer future loss of wages.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

# <u>COUNT I</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANTS VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count I of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

34. That the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Driver was acting in the course and scope of his employment with Venture. Thus, at the time of the crash alleged herein Driver was an agent, servant, and/or employee of Venture and as such, Venture is vicariously liable for the actions and omissions of Driver, its agent, servant, and/or employee.

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35. At the time of this crash, Driver was an agent, servant and/or employee under the control, right of control, joint and mutual control, or joint and mutual right of control of Venture and as such all of the acts of negligence on his part were committed within the course and scope of his agency and employment with Venture.

- 36. At the time of the incident alleged herein, Venture, through its agents, servants, and employees including, but not limited to Driver were negligent, careless, and breached their duty of care to the general public and Plaintiff on the date alleged herein in one or more of the following respects:
  - a. Failed to have the motor vehicle under proper control;
  - b. Failed to keep a proper lookout and pay attention;
  - c. Operated the tractor while distracted, tired or fatigued;
  - d. Operated the tractor without adequate training, experience, or qualifications;
  - e. Drove while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs;
  - f. Failing to exercise the highest degree of care under the circumstances.
- 37. Each of the negligent acts or omissions by Venture, as alleged herein was a direct and proximate cause of the incident and the resulting injuries and damages to Plaintiff.
- 38. The actions of Venture as alleged herein showed a complete indifference to or conscious disregard for the safety of Plaintiff and other human beings.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

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## COUNT II NEGLIGENCE AGAINST DEFENDANTS FAIRFIELD PROCESSING.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count II of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

- 39. On February 17, 2019, Fairfield owned, controlled, or possessed Premises where Plaintiff worked as an independent contractor.
- 40. That at the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Fairfield oversaw the work of contracted temporary employees such as Plaintiff and held a responsibility to maintain a reasonably safe working environment.
- 41. That at the time of this incident, Fairfield, through its agents, servants, and employees:
  - a. Failed to adopt or implement policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock.
- 42. In the alternative to and/or in addition to the allegations of paragraph 40, Fairfield:
  - a. Failed to notify its employees, agents, or contractors, of any policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - b. Failed to properly supervise its employees, agents, or contractors working on the loading dock;
  - c. Failed to properly train its employees, agents, or contractors regarding any policies, procedures, or standing orders set in place to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - d. Failed to notify Driver before he pulled away from the dock that Plaintiff was still inside the trailer; and
  - e. Failed to warn Plaintiff that Driver was pulling away from the dock.

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43. That such failures and omissions created a foreseeable likelihood of a harm or

injury.

44. That in so doing, Fairfield was thereby negligent.

45. That as a direct and proximate result of such negligence, Plaintiff sustained the

damages alleged above.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five

Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants

jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together

with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the

circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbann Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWR	ENCE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	
		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCE	ESSING CORPORATION	)	
Et. Al.		)	
		)	
	Defendants.	)	

#### RULE 67.02(a) DISMISSAL OF VENTURE EXPRESS INC. WITHOUT PREJUDICE

COMES NOW Plaintiff by and through her attorneys of record and dismisses only Defendant Venture Express Inc., *without* prejudice pursuant to Rule 67.02(a). Said dismissal in no way impacts allegations against Venture Express LLC or Fairfield Processing.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

John S. Appellaym Jr., MO #71766

john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	) )

## <u>DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S</u> <u>ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S PETITION</u>

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Answer to Plaintiff's Petition, states as follows:

#### FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- 1. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 1 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 2. Defendant admits it is a foreign corporation organized in the State of Connecticut with its principal place of business in the State of Connecticut. Defendant denies the remaining allegation in paragraph 2 of Plaintiff's Petition.
  - 3. Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 4. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 4 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 5. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 5 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
  - 6. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of Plaintiff's Petition.

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7. The allegations contained in paragraph 7 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 7, and therefore denies same.

- 8. The allegations contained in paragraph 8 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 8, and therefore denies same.
- 9. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 9 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 10. The allegations contained in paragraph 10 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 10, and therefore denies same.
- 11. The allegations contained in paragraph 11 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 11, and therefore denies same.

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12. The allegations contained in paragraph 12 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies same.

- 13. The allegations contained in paragraph 13 of Plaintiff's Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies same.
- 14. Defendant admits that on or about December 19, 2019, it leased and conducted business at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63147 ("Premises"). Defendant denies the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 14 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 15. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix upon information and belief. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 15, and therefore denies same.
- 16. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 16 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 17. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 17 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 18. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 18 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 19. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 19 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 20. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 20 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 21. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 21 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.

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22. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 22 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.

- 23. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 23 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 24. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 24 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 25. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 25 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 26. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 26 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 27. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 27 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 28. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 28 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 29. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 29 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 30. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 30 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 31. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 31 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 32. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 32 of Plaintiff's Petition.
- 33. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 33 of Plaintiff's Petition.

## COUNT I NEGLIGENCE AGAINST DEFENDANT VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.

This Defendant makes no Answer to the allegations contained in Count I of Plaintiff's Petition for the reason that Count I is directed against Defendant Venture Express, Inc., against whom judgment is prayed and no judgment is prayed against this Defendant. However, should it be construed that any of the allegations in Count I are directed against this Defendant, then this Defendant denies each and every one of those allegations.

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# <u>COUNT II</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), and for Count II of Plaintiff's Petition, hereby incorporates its responses to paragraphs 1-33 as if fully stated herein, and states as follows:

- 39. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, it leased the Premises where Plaintiff was an employee of ProLogistix upon information and belief. Defendant has insufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 39 of Plaintiff's Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 40. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix upon information and belief. The remaining allegations contained in paragraph 40 are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits its duties are determined by Missouri law.
- 41. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 41 of Plaintiff's Petition, and all subparts thereto.
- 42. Defendant denies the allegations contained in subparts a, b, and c of paragraph 42. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 42 of Plaintiff's Petition, including subparts d and e, and therefore denies same.
  - 43. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 43 of Plaintiff's Petition.
  - 44. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 44 of Plaintiff's Petition.
  - 45. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 45 of Plaintiff's Petition.

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#### AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

46. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that Plaintiff's Petition fails to state a claim.

47. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries were sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were the direct and proximate result of Plaintiff's carelessness, negligence, and/or comparative fault.

48. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were caused by or contributed to be caused by other individuals or entities outside this Defendant's control.

49. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that pursuant to §490.715 R.S.Mo, effective August 28, 2017, Plaintiff is limited to introduce at trial only the evidence of the actual cost of medical care, which is defined as the sum of money not to exceed the dollar amounts paid by or on behalf of Plaintiff plus any remaining dollar amount necessary to satisfy the financial obligation for medical care by a health care provider after adjustments or contractual discounts, price reductions, or write-offs by any person or entity.

50. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant reserves the right to raise additional affirmative defenses as discovery progresses in this matter.

WHEREFORE, having fully answered and responded to Plaintiff's Petition, Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation prays to be dismissed with its cost herein expended, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

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Respectfully submitted,

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 17th day of March, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/llw 25653197.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 228 of 418 PageID #: 233

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

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) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
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) JURY TRIAL DEMANDEI
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#### **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**

COMES NOW John A. Mazzei, Brown & James, P.C., and hereby enters his appearance on behalf of Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

#### **BROWN & JAMES, P.C.**

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 17th day of March, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/	John	A.	Mazzei
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JAM/llw 25650639.1

### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

(m.,		,		
Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STE	1 <b>7</b> ED	Case Number: 2022	·CC10591	Cunsist Dunnana Com au 1
	LZEK	DI : :::0 /D :::: 1	A	Special Process Server 1
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE		Plaintiff's/Petitioner's A JOHN S APPELBAUI 105 FOREST GLADE		Special Process Server 2
	VS.	IMPERIAL, MO 6305.	2	Special Process Server 3
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN	G CORPORATION	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILI	DING	(Date File Stamp)
Nature of Suit:		10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63	2101	
CC Pers Injury-Other		l		
Sı		nal Service Outside xcept Attachment Acti	e the State of Missou ion)	irī
The State of Missouri to:	VENTURE EXPRESS LL Alias:	.C		
C/O DENNIS RWEIKIZA RAG 10211 E COUNTYSIDE CIR WICHITA, KS 67207				
COURT SEAL OF			and to file your pleading t	
			pleading upon the attorney in 30 days after service of	
(2(75.JK))e)			o file your pleading, judgm	ent by default will be
	taken against you for the March 19, 20		is action.	4
CITY OF ST LOUIS	Walti 13, 20	12.1	Thomas Illo	eppinger
	Date Further Information:	-	Clerk	77-0-
		or Server's Affidavit o	of Service	
I certify that:	. Omiodi o	or correr or annual co		
<ol> <li>I am authorized to s</li> <li>My official title is</li> </ol>	serve process in civil action	ns within the state or territor of	ry where the above summon County.	s was served. (state).
3. I have served the a	bove summons by: (check	one)	County,	,
leaving a copy	py of the summons and a c of the summons and a cop	y of the petition at the dwe	elling place or usual abode of	the
detendant/resp over the age of	ondent with 15 vears who permanently	resides with the defenda	_, a person of the defendant' nt/respondent.	s/respondent's family
(for service on	a corporation) delivering a	copy of the summons and	a copy of the petition to	
				(title).
other:				
Served at	***************************************			(address)
in	County,	(state), or	(date) at	(time).
	ne of Sheriff or Server	le of a management of the least	Signature of She	
		before me this ne clerk of the court of whi	(day) (r ch affiant is an officer	month) (year).
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(Seal)			ths in the state in which the a	iffiant served the above
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See the following page for directions to officer making return on service of summons.

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#### **Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons**

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

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### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its

Objections to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories and Objections to Plaintiff's First Request for

Production of Documents via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr.

The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 2nd day of April, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
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St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,

Fairfield Processing Corporation

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 2nd day of April, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 25650607.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 234 of 418 PageID #: 239

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC1059 <sup>-</sup>
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its First Interrogatories to Plaintiff and First Request for Production of Documents to Plaintiff in Word Format via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 7th day of April, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

Isl John A. Mazzei

John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 235 of 418 PageID #: 240

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 7th day of April, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 25777953.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 236 of 418 PageID #: 241

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED )
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.,	)
Defendants.	) )

### DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED PETITION

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Answer to Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, states as follows:

#### FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- 1. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 1 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 2. Defendant admits it is a foreign corporation organized in the State of Connecticut with its principal place of business in the State of Connecticut. Defendant denies the remaining allegation in paragraph 2 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 3. Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 4. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 4 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 5. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 5 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

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6. Defendant admits that on or about December 19, 2019, it leased, operated, and conducted business at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63147 ("Premises"), which contained a loading dock. Defendant denies the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 6 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

- 7. The allegations contained in paragraph 7 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 7, and therefore denies same.
- 8. The allegations contained in paragraph 8 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 8, and therefore denies same.
- 9. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 9 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 10. The allegations contained in paragraph 10 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 10, and therefore denies same.

- 11. The allegations contained in paragraph 11 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 11, and therefore denies same.
- 12. The allegations contained in paragraph 12 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies same.
- 13. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 13 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 14. Defendant admits that on or about December 19, 2019, it leased and controlled the operation of its business at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63147 ("Premises"). Defendant denies the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 14 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 15. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix pursuant to a contract between Defendant and ProLogistix. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 15, and therefore denies same.
- 16. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 16 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 17. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 17 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

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18. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 18 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

- 19. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 19 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 20. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 20 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 21. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 21 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 22. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 22 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 23. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 23 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 24. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 24 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 25. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 25 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 26. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 26 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 27. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 27 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 28. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 28 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 29. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 29 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

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30. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 30 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

- 31. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 31 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 32. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 32 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 33. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 33 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

## COUNT I NEGLIGENCE AGAINST DEFENDANT VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.

This Defendant makes no Answer to the allegations contained in Count I of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition for the reason that Count I is directed against Defendant Venture Express, Inc., against whom judgment is prayed and no judgment is prayed against this Defendant. However, should it be construed that any of the allegations in Count I are directed against this Defendant, then this Defendant denies each and every one of those allegations.

## COUNT II NEGLIGENCE AGAINST DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), and for Count II of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, hereby incorporates its responses to paragraphs 1-33 as if fully stated herein, and states as follows:

39. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, it leased, possessed, and controlled the operation of its business at the Premises, where Plaintiff was an employee of ProLogistix pursuant to a contract between Defendant and ProLogistix. Defendant has insufficient

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information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 39 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

- 40. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix pursuant to a contract between Defendant and ProLogistix. The remaining allegations contained in paragraph 40 are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits its duties are determined by Missouri law.
- 41. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 41 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, and all subparts thereto.
- 42. Defendant denies the allegations contained in subparts a, b, and c of paragraph 42. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 42 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, including subparts d and e, and therefore denies same.
- 43. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 43 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 44. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 44 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 45. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 45 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.

#### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

46. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that Plaintiff's First Amended Petition fails to state a claim.

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47. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries were sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were the direct and proximate result of Plaintiff's carelessness, negligence, and/or comparative fault.

48. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were caused by or contributed to be caused by other individuals or entities outside this Defendant's control.

49. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that pursuant to §490.715 R.S.Mo, effective August 28, 2017, Plaintiff is limited to introduce at trial only the evidence of the actual cost of medical care, which is defined as the sum of money not to exceed the dollar amounts paid by or on behalf of Plaintiff plus any remaining dollar amount necessary to satisfy the financial obligation for medical care by a health care provider after adjustments or contractual discounts, price reductions, or write-offs by any person or entity.

50. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that Plaintiff's claims are barred by the exclusive provisions of the Workers' Compensation Statutes of the State of Missouri and, further, Plaintiff was a statutory employee of this Defendant at the time of the incident in accordance with the applicable statutes and case law that Plaintiff was on Defendant's premises for the purpose of performing duties and acts which would have been performed by Defendant's own employees if it had not been for a contract of services between Defendant and Plaintiff's employer and, therefore, Plaintiff's action is barred and the Court does not have subject matter jurisdiction over this action.

51. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that pursuant to §537.067 R.S.Mo (amended 2005), if Defendant is found to bear less than fifty-one percent (51%) of fault, then Defendant shall only be responsible for the percentage of the judgment for which Defendant

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is determined to be responsible by the trier of fact, if any, and Defendant will not be liable for the fault of another Defendant or for payment of the proportionate share of another Defendant.

52. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant reserves the right to rely upon such other additional defenses as may become available or appear subsequently in this case, including during the course of discovery proceedings, and hereby reserves the right to amend this Answer to assert any such defenses.

WHEREFORE, having fully answered and responded to Plaintiff's First Amended Petition, Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation prays to be dismissed with its cost herein expended, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM 25759195.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 245 of 418 PageID #: 250

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,		)	
vs. FAIRFIELD PROCESSING C	Plaintiff, ORPORATION	) ) ) )	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591  Division:  Plaintiff Demands Jury Tria
		)	On All Counts
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.		)	
·	Defendants.	)	

#### **REQUEST FOR ALIAS SUMMONS**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, by and through her attorneys of record, The Cagle Law Firm, and states the following requests an alias summons be issued on Defendant Venture Express, LLC. to Dennis Rweikiza Ragt at 10211 E. Countryside Cir. Wichita KS 67207.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM, LLC

John S. Appellaym Jr., MO #71766

john@caglellc.com

500 North Broadway, Ste. 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738 Attorneys for Plaintiff





#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division:				
	Cas	e Number: 2022-CC10591		
MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER				Process Server 1
Plaintiff/Petitioner:		ntiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Add	i	
FONTANIA LAWRENCE	l l	N S APPELBAUM	Special	Process Server 2
		N BROADWAY		
		TE 1605		
		LOUIS, MO 63102	Special	Process Server 3
Defendant/Respondent:		rt Address:	(Date File	e Stamp)
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING COR		L COURTS BUILDING		
Nature of Suit:		TUCKER BLVD		
CC Pers Injury-Other	SAI	NT LOUIS, MO 63101		
Alias Sum		I Service Outside the St Attachment Action)	ate of Missouri	
The State of Missouri to: VENT	,	Attachment Action)		
Alias:	UKE EXPRESS LLC			
C/O DENNIS RWEIKIZA RAGT				
10211 E COUNTYSIDE CIR				
WICHITA, KS 67207				
		r before this court and to file y		ition, copy of
		ve a copy of your pleading upo		
		e address all within 30 days at		
		ervice. If you fail to file your pl	eading, judgment by de	efault will be
taken	•	ef demanded in this action.	n 1.11	
3,000	April 26, 2021	Th	mas Bloennen	. بد فرزوس
CITY OF ST LOUIS	Date		mas Moeppin	<del></del>
Further	Information:		Oloii C	
	Officer's or Se	erver's Affidavit of Service		
I certify that:				
<ol> <li>I am authorized to serve pr</li> </ol>	ocess in civil actions with	in the state or territory where the	above summons was ser	ved.
1. I am authorized to serve pr		of	Country	
My official title is		UI	County,	(state).
<ol> <li>My official title is</li> <li>I have served the above su</li> </ol>				(state).
<ul><li>2. My official title is</li><li>3. I have served the above su</li><li>delivering a copy of the</li></ul>	e summons and a copy of	the petition to the defendant/resp	ondent.	(state).
<ul> <li>My official title is</li></ul>	e summons and a copy of ummons and a copy of th	the petition to the defendant/resp e petition at the dwelling place or	ondent. usual abode of the	
<ul> <li>My official title is</li></ul>	e summons and a copy of ummons and a copy of th with	the petition to the defendant/resp e petition at the dwelling place or , a person of	ondent. usual abode of the the defendant's/respond	
<ul> <li>2. My official title is</li></ul>	e summons and a copy of ummons and a copy of th with rs who permanently resid	the petition to the defendant/resp e petition at the dwelling place or , a person of es with the defendant/respondent	ondent. usual abode of the the defendant's/respond	
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2. My official title is	e summons and a copy of the ummons and a copy of the with	the petition to the defendant/respe petition at the dwelling place or, a person of es with the defendant/respondent of the summons and a copy of the (name) (state), on (day) k of the court of which affiant is a ge of the court of which affiant is a ged to administer oaths in the state	sondent. usual abode of the the defendant's/respond. petition to  (date) at Signature of Sheriff or Serve (month) n officer. n officer.	ent's family (title) (address) (time).
2. My official title is	e summons and a copy of ummons and a copy of the with	the petition to the defendant/respe petition at the dwelling place or, a person of es with the defendant/respondent of the summons and a copy of the (name) (state), on e me this (day) k of the court of which affiant is a ge of the court of which affiant is a ged to administer oaths in the statens. (use for out-of-state officer)	sondent. usual abode of the the defendant's/respond. petition to  (date) at Signature of Sheriff or Serve (month) n officer. e in which the affiant serve	ent's family (title) (address) (time).
2. My official title is	e summons and a copy of ummons and a copy of the with	the petition to the defendant/respe petition at the dwelling place or, a person of es with the defendant/respondent of the summons and a copy of the (name) (state), on (day) k of the court of which affiant is a ge of the court of which affiant is a ged to administer oaths in the state	sondent. usual abode of the the defendant's/respond. petition to  (date) at Signature of Sheriff or Serve (month) n officer. e in which the affiant serve	ent's family (title) (address) (time).

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See the following page for directions to officer making return on service of summons.

Service Fees Summons

Non Est

Mileage

Total

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\$

per mile)

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#### Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion must be served on each defendant/respondent. If any defendant/respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion when offered, the return shall be prepared accordingly so as to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and the defendant's/respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age who permanently resides with the defendant/respondent, or by delivering a copy of the summons and petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant/respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. Upon a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory of the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The office making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must be made less than 10 days nor more than 30 days from the date the defendant/respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri court within 30 days after service.

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### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWREN	CE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC1059
VS.		)	
		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESS	SING CORPORATION	)	
		)	
And		)	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	***	)	
VENTURE EXPRESS,	LLC.	)	
	Defendants.	)	

#### Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that Copies of: (1) Plaintiff's Objections and Answers to Fairfield Processing's First Interrogatories; (2 Plaintiff's Objections and Answers to Fairfield Processing's Requests for Production; (3) Responsive documents in possession of Plaintiff's counsel; and (4) this Certificate of Service were sent via electronic mail to the attorney of record indicated below on the 5<sup>h</sup> day of May, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

Respectfully Submitted, THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: john@caglellc.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff

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#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

State of Missouri

County of Saint Louis (City)

Circuit Court

Case Number: 2022-CC10591

Plaintiff/Petitioner:

**FONTANIA LAWRENCE** 

VS

Defendant/Respondent:

FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, et al.

Received by HPS Process Service & Investigations to be served on Venture Express, LLC c/o Dennis Rweikiza Ragt, 10211 East Countryside Circle, Wichita, KS 67207.

I, GRACE HAZELL, being duly sworn, depose and say that on the 27th day of April, 2021 at 4:45 pm, I:

Served the within named establishment by delivering a true copy of Alias Summons for Personal Service Outside the State of Missouri; and First Amended Petition to Dennis Rweikiza Ragt, Owner at the address of 10211 East Countryside Circle, Wichita, KS 67207.

I am over the age of eighteen, and have no interest in the above action.

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on the da of Way and sworn to before me on the da of Way and sworn to before me on the day and sworn to before me on the day and day are the day and day are the day and day are the day are the day and day are the day are the

personally known to me

NOTARY PUBLIC

GRACE HAZELL Process Server

HPS Process Service & Investigations www.hpsprocess.com 1669 Jefferson Kansas City, MO 64108 (800) 796-9559

Our Job Serial Number: HAT-2021009253

CHRISTINA WALLER

Notary Public - State of Kansasyright @ 1992-2021 Database Services, Inc. - Process Server's Toolbox V8.2a

My Apat Expires April 23, 2022

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#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

State of Missouri

County of Saint Louis (City)

Circuit Court

Case Number: 2022-CC10591

Plaintiff/Petitioner:

**FONTANIA LAWRENCE** 

VS

Defendant/Respondent:

FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION, et al.

Received by HPS Process Service & Investigations to be served on Venture Express, LLC c/o Dennis Rweikiza Ragt, 10211 East Countryside Circle, Wichita, KS 67207.

L GRACE HAZELL, being duly sworn, decose and say that on the 27th day of April, 2021 at 4:45 pm, I:

Served the within named establishment by delivering a true copy of Alias Summons for Personal Service Outside the State of Missouri; and First Amended Petition to Dennis Rweikiza Ragt, Owner at the address of 10211 East Countryside Circle, Wichita, KS 67207.

I am over the age of eighteen, and have no interest in the above action.

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on the US ON TO by the affiant who is personally known to me

**NOTARY PUBLIC** 

**GRACE HAZELL** Process Server

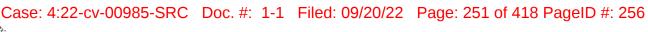
**HPS Process Service & Investigations** www.hpsprocess.com 1669 Jefferson Kansas City, MO 64108 (800) 796-9559

Our Job Serial Number: HAT-2021009253

CHRISTINA WALLER Notary Public - State of Kansas

right © 1992-2021 Database Services, Inc. - Process Server's Toolbox V6.2a

My Appt. Expires April 23. 2022





#### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	Special Process Server 1
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address: JOHN S APPELBAUM	Special Process Server 2
VS.	500 N BROADWAY SUITE 1605 ST. LOUIS, MO 63102	Special Process Server 3
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING	(Date File Stamp)
Nature of Suit: CC Pers Injury-Other	10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	
Alias Summons for Pers	sonal Service Outside the State of Miss	souri

CC Pers Injury-Other	SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	
Alias Summons for Personal Service Outside the State of Missouri		
(Except Attachment Action)		
The State of Missouri to:	VENTURE EXPRESS LLC Alias:	
C/O DENNIS RWEIKIZA RAG 10211 E COUNTYSIDE CIR WICHITA, KS 67207		and the second s
COURT SEAL OF	You are summoned to appear before this court and to file your pleading to which is attached, and to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney plaintiff/petitioner at the above address all within 30 days after service of the you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgmentaken against you for the relief demanded in this action.  April 26, 2021  Date  Clerk	for the his summons upon ent by default will be
	Date Clerk Clerk	
Certify that:   1.   I am authorized to serve process in civil actions within the state or farritory where the above summons was served.   2.   My official title is   PROSS   Server   Of   Server   County,   County		
Service Fees Summons \$ Non Est \$ Mileage \$ Total \$	(	

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### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	) )

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its First Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 254 of 418 PageID #: 259

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 26141386.1

JAM/llw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 255 of 418 PageID #: 260

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	) )

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 26141386.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 257 of 418 PageID #: 262

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

)
)
) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
) ) Division I )
) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
)
)

### **PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Upon Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation's Motion for Agreed Protective Order, the Court hereby enters this Protective Order regarding Confidential Information ("Protective Order") governing the disclosure during pretrial discovery and the subsequent handling of trade secret information, proprietary information, other confidential commercial, financial, or personal information, and documents containing any such information (hereinafter collectively referred to as "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION") as follows:

### 1. Initial Designation.

1.1 Produced Documents. A party producing documents that it believes constitute or contains CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall produce copies bearing a label that contains (or includes) language substantially identical to the following:

#### "CONFIDENTIAL"

This label shall be affixed in a manner that does not obliterate or obscure the contents of the copies. As used herein, the term "documents" includes all writings, other media on which

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information is recorded, and other tangible things subject to production under Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 58. Claims of confidentiality will be made only with respect to documents to which the asserting party has a good faith belief and are legally entitled to protection from discovery and disclosure under Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 56.01(c) and applicable case law.

- 1.2 Interrogatory Answers. If a party answering an Interrogatory believes that its Answer contains CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, it shall set forth its Answer in a separate document that is produced and designated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION in the same manner as a produced document under subparagraph 1.1. The Answers to Interrogatories should make reference to the separately produced document containing the Answer, but such document should not be attached to the Interrogatories.
- 1.3 Inspection of Documents. In the event a party elects to produce files and records for inspection and the requesting party elects to inspect them, no designation of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION need be made in advance of the inspection. For purposes of such inspection, all material produced shall be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. If the inspecting party selects specified documents to be copied, the producing party shall designate CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION in accordance with subparagraph 1.1 at the time the copies are produced.
- party may inform the other parties to the action of the portions of the transcript that it wishes to designate as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. A deposition transcript in its entirety is to be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION for twenty-one (21) days after receipt. If no designation is made within twenty-one (21) days of receipt, the deposition transcript shall not be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. All parties in possession of a copy of a

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designated deposition transcript shall appropriately mark it as containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

- 1.5 Multipage Documents. A party may designate all pages of an integrated multipage document, including a deposition transcript and Interrogatory Answers, as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION by placing the label specified in subparagraph 1.1 on the first page of the document. If a party wishes to designate only certain portions of an integrated, multipage document as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, it should designate such portions immediately below the label on the first page of the document and place the label specified in subparagraph 1.1 on each page of the document containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.
- of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, including objections to portions of multipage documents, shall notify the designating party within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of the designation. Any objection shall be made in good faith. The objecting and the designating party shall promptly confer in an attempt to resolve their differences. If the designating and objecting parties are unable to resolve their differences, the designating party shall have fourteen (14) days from the receipt of the objection to file with the Court a Motion for Protective Order. All documents initially designated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall continue to be subject to this Order unless and until the Court rules otherwise. If a designating party elects not to make a Motion for Protective Order with respect to documents to which an objection has been made, it shall be deemed to have withdrawn its designation, and it shall produce copies of such documents without the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION designation if so requested.
- 2. Custody. During the pendency of this litigation and for ninety (90) days after the conclusion of this litigation, all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and any and all copies,

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extracts and summaries thereof, including memoranda relating thereto, shall be retained by the receiving party in the custody of counsel of record, or by persons to whom disclosure is authorized under subparagraph 4.1, or by the Judge and Jury. Paragraph 6 addresses in more detail handling of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION after the conclusion of this litigation.

### 3. Handling Prior to Trial.

- 3.1 Authorized Disclosures. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be disclosed by the receiving party only to the following persons, either after having obtained a written acknowledgment from such person that he or she has been advised of the existence and terms of this Protective Order and agrees to be bound by it, or after having provided to such person written notice and instructions regarding the existence and terms of this Protective Order and receiving in return such person's agreement to be bound by it:
  - a. Counsel for the parties, including their associates, clerks, and secretarial and clerical personnel;
  - b. Qualified persons taking testimony involving such information, and necessary stenographic, videotape and clerical personnel;
  - c. Experts and their staff who are consulted by counsel for a party;
  - d. Parties to the litigation, including their employees; and
  - e. The Judge and his or her designated staff.

Such disclosures are authorized only to the extent necessary to prosecute or defend this litigation. Before disclosing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION to any authorized person who is a competitor (or an employee of a competitor) of the designating party, the party wishing to make such disclosure shall give at least fourteen (14) days' notice in writing to the designating party, stating the names and addresses of the person(s) to whom the disclosure will be made, and identifying with particularity the documents to be disclosed. If, within the 14-day period, a Motion is filed objecting to the proposed disclosure, disclosure is not authorized unless and until the Court orders otherwise.

3.2 Unauthorized Disclosures. If CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION is disclosed to any person other than in the manner authorized by this Protective Order, the party or person responsible for the disclosure, and any other party or person who is subject to this Order and learns of such disclosure, shall immediately bring such disclosure to the attention of the designating party. Without prejudice to other rights and remedies of the designating party, the responsible party or person shall make every effort to obtain the return of the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and to prevent further disclosure on its own part or on the part of the person who was the unauthorized recipient of such information.

3.3 Court Filings. In the event any CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION must be filed with the Court prior to trial, it shall be filed in a sealed envelope at the expense of the filing party and marked on the outside with the title of this action, an identification of each document within and a statement substantially in the following form:

SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER – This envelope containing the above identified material filed by [name of party] is not to be opened nor the contents thereof be displayed or revealed except as provided for in the Protective Order or by Court Order, or by agreement of the parties.

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This provision is applicable to briefs, memoranda, and other filings that quote, summarize or describe CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. This provision is not applicable to Pleadings as defined in Missouri Supreme Court Rule 55.01.

- 4. Handling During Trial. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION that is subject to this Order may be marked and used as trial exhibits by either party, subject to terms and conditions as imposed by the Trial Court upon application by the designating party.
- 5. Handling After Trial. Within 90 days of the conclusion of this litigation, the designating party may request that any or all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION be returned to the designating party. After receiving a request to return, the receiving party, at its option, may destroy CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION instead of returning it to the designating party, but must so notify the designating party. The request for return shall specifically identify the documents or things to be returned if return of less than all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION is requested. The attorney for the receiving party shall collect, assemble, and return within 60 days all such CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, including all copies, extracts, and summaries thereof in the possession of the receiving party, its counsel or other authorized recipients, but not including copies, extracts, or summaries that contain or constitute the attorney's work product. If requested by the designating party within 90 days of the conclusion of the litigation, all copies, extracts or summaries that contain or constitute the attorney's work product shall be destroyed and the attorney for the receiving party shall certify in writing that all such copies, extracts, and summaries have been destroyed. Receipt of returned CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be acknowledged in writing if such acknowledgment is requested. Any CONFIDENTIAL

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INFORMATION not timely requested to be returned or destroyed shall no longer be the subject

of this protective order.

No Implied Waivers. The entry of this Order shall not be interpreted as a waiver

of the right to object, pursuant to the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, to the furnishing of

information in response to discovery requests or to object to a requested inspection of documents

for facilities. Neither the agreement to, or the taking of any action in accordance with the

provisions of this Protective Order, nor the failure to object thereto, shall be interpreted as a waiver

of any claim or position or defense in this action, or any other actions.

SO ORDERED, the	is day of	, 2021.
By the Court:		
,	HIDGE	

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

)
)
)
) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
) Division 1
) JURY TRIAL DEMANDEI
)
)

# DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S MOTION FOR AGREED PROTECTIVE ORDER

COMEW NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Motion for Agreed Protective Order, states as follows:

- 1. This case arises from an alleged incident involving Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, whom was allegedly injured on property leased by Defendant.
- 2. Plaintiff has propounded Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents to Defendant in the above-captioned matter.
- 3. Some of Plaintiff's Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents seek information that is confidential and proprietary to Defendant.
- 4. Defendant has a legitimate business interest in protecting and safeguarding against the disclosure of such information to its commercial competitors.
- 5. Based on the formal discovery propounded by Plaintiff to Defendant, and in consideration of additional future discovery likely to be sought from Defendant by Plaintiff,

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Defendant requests the protection of a formal Protective Order to prevent the dissemination of such confidential and proprietary information to Defendant's commercial competitors.

6. Plaintiff's counsel has no objection to the proposed Protective Order attached hereto as "Exhibit A".

WHEREFORE, Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation prays the Court, for good cause shown and by agreement, enter the Protective Order attached hereto as "Exhibit A", and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
--------------------

JAM 26272084.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 266 of 418 PageID #: 271

IN THE C	IRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUI STATE OF MISSOURI	S CITY SILER
FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)	AUG 1 1 2021
Plaintiff,	) ) )	22 <sup>ND</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE BYDEPUT)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2	.022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) Division 1 )	L DEMANDED
and	) JURI IRIA )	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.,	)	ENTERED
Defendants.	)	AUG 1 1 2021
	PROTECTIVE ORDER	MS

Upon Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation's Motion for Agreed Protective Order, the Court hereby enters this Protective Order regarding Confidential Information ("Protective Order") governing the disclosure during pretrial discovery and the subsequent handling of trade secret information, proprietary information, other confidential commercial, financial, or personal information, and documents containing any such information (hereinafter collectively referred to as "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION") as follows:

### 1. Initial Designation.

1.1 Produced Documents. A party producing documents that it believes constitute or contains CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall produce copies bearing a label that contains (or includes) language substantially identical to the following:

#### "CONFIDENTIAL"

This label shall be affixed in a manner that does not obliterate or obscure the contents of the copies. As used herein, the term "documents" includes all writings, other media on which

information is recorded, and other tangible things subject to production under Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 58. Claims of confidentiality will be made only with respect to documents to which the asserting party has a good faith belief and are legally entitled to protection from discovery and disclosure under Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 56.01(c) and applicable case law.

- 1.2 Interrogatory Answers. If a party answering an Interrogatory believes that its Answer contains CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, it shall set forth its Answer in a separate document that is produced and designated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION in the same manner as a produced document under subparagraph 1.1. The Answers to Interrogatories should make reference to the separately produced document containing the Answer, but such document should not be attached to the Interrogatories.
- 1.3 Inspection of Documents. In the event a party elects to produce files and records for inspection and the requesting party elects to inspect them, no designation of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION need be made in advance of the inspection. For purposes of such inspection, all material produced shall be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. If the inspecting party selects specified documents to be copied, the producing party shall designate CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION in accordance with subparagraph 1.1 at the time the copies are produced.
- 1.4 Deposition Transcripts. After the receipt of a deposition transcript, a party may inform the other parties to the action of the portions of the transcript that it wishes to designate as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. A deposition transcript in its entirety is to be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION for twenty-one (21) days after receipt. If no designation is made within twenty-one (21) days of receipt, the deposition transcript shall not be considered as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. All parties in possession of a copy of a

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designated deposition transcript shall appropriately mark it as containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

- 1.5 Multipage Documents. A party may designate all pages of an integrated multipage document, including a deposition transcript and Interrogatory Answers, as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION by placing the label specified in subparagraph 1.1 on the first page of the document. If a party wishes to designate only certain portions of an integrated, multipage document as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, it should designate such portions immediately below the label on the first page of the document and place the label specified in subparagraph 1.1 on each page of the document containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.
- 1.6 Objections to Designations. Any party objecting to an initial designation of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, including objections to portions of multipage documents, shall notify the designating party within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of the designation. Any objection shall be made in good faith. The objecting and the designating party shall promptly confer in an attempt to resolve their differences. If the designating and objecting parties are unable to resolve their differences, the designating party shall have fourteen (14) days from the receipt of the objection to file with the Court a Motion for Protective Order. All documents initially designated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall continue to be subject to this Order unless and until the Court rules otherwise. If a designating party elects not to make a Motion for Protective Order with respect to documents to which an objection has been made, it shall be deemed to have withdrawn its designation, and it shall produce copies of such documents without the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION designation if so requested.
- 2. Custody. During the pendency of this litigation and for ninety (90) days after the conclusion of this litigation, all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and any and all copies,

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extracts and summaries thereof, including memoranda relating thereto, shall be retained by the receiving party in the custody of counsel of record, or by persons to whom disclosure is authorized under subparagraph 4.1, or by the Judge and Jury. Paragraph 6 addresses in more detail handling of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION after the conclusion of this litigation.

### 3. Handling Prior to Trial.

- 3.1 Authorized Disclosures. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be disclosed by the receiving party only to the following persons, either after having obtained a written acknowledgment from such person that he or she has been advised of the existence and terms of this Protective Order and agrees to be bound by it, or after having provided to such person written notice and instructions regarding the existence and terms of this Protective Order and receiving in return such person's agreement to be bound by it:
  - a. Counsel for the parties, including their associates, clerks, and secretarial and clerical personnel;
  - b. Qualified persons taking testimony involving such information, and necessary stenographic, videotape and clerical personnel;
  - c. Experts and their staff who are consulted by counsel for a party;
  - d. Parties to the litigation, including their employees; and
  - e. The Judge and his or her designated staff.

Such disclosures are authorized only to the extent necessary to prosecute or defend this litigation. Before disclosing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION to any authorized person who is a competitor (or an employee of a competitor) of the designating party, the party wishing to make such disclosure shall give at least fourteen (14) days' notice in writing to the designating party, stating the names and addresses of the person(s) to whom the disclosure will be made, and identifying with particularity the documents to be disclosed. If, within the 14-day period, a Motion is filed objecting to the proposed disclosure, disclosure is not authorized unless and until the Court orders otherwise.

- disclosed to any person other than in the manner authorized by this Protective Order, the party or person responsible for the disclosure, and any other party or person who is subject to this Order and learns of such disclosure, shall immediately bring such disclosure to the attention of the designating party. Without prejudice to other rights and remedies of the designating party, the responsible party or person shall make every effort to obtain the return of the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and to prevent further disclosure on its own part or on the part of the person who was the unauthorized recipient of such information.
- 3.3 Court Filings. In the event any CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION must be filed with the Court prior to trial, it shall be filed in a sealed envelope at the expense of the filing party and marked on the outside with the title of this action, an identification of each document within and a statement substantially in the following form:

SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER – This envelope containing the above identified material filed by [name of party] is not to be opened nor the contents thereof be displayed or revealed except as provided for in the Protective Order or by Court Order, or by agreement of the parties.

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This provision is applicable to briefs, memoranda, and other filings that quote, summarize or describe CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. This provision is not applicable to Pleadings as defined in Missouri Supreme Court Rule 55.01.

- 4. Handling During Trial. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION that is subject to this Order may be marked and used as trial exhibits by either party, subject to terms and conditions as imposed by the Trial Court upon application by the designating party.
- 5. Handling After Trial. Within 90 days of the conclusion of this litigation, the designating party may request that any or all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION be returned to the designating party. After receiving a request to return, the receiving party, at its option, may destroy CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION instead of returning it to the designating party, but must so notify the designating party. The request for return shall specifically identify the documents or things to be returned if return of less than all CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION is requested. The attorney for the receiving party shall collect, assemble, and return within 60 days all such CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, including all copies, extracts, and summaries thereof in the possession of the receiving party, its counsel or other authorized recipients, but not including copies, extracts, or summaries that contain or constitute the attorney's work product. If requested by the designating party within 90 days of the conclusion of the litigation, all copies, extracts or summaries that contain or constitute the attorney's work product shall be destroyed and the attorney for the receiving party shall certify in writing that all such copies, extracts, and summaries Receipt of returned CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be have been destroyed. acknowledged in writing if such acknowledgment is requested. Any CONFIDENTIAL

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INFORMATION not timely requested to be returned or destroyed shall no longer be the subject of this protective order.

6. No Implied Waivers. The entry of this Order shall not be interpreted as a waiver of the right to object, pursuant to the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, to the furnishing of information in response to discovery requests or to object to a requested inspection of documents for facilities. Neither the agreement to, or the taking of any action in accordance with the provisions of this Protective Order, nor the failure to object thereto, shall be interpreted as a waiver of any claim or position or defense in this action, or any other actions.

SO ORDERED, this May of Arros , 2021.

y the Court:

By the Court:

JAM 26272091.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 273 of 418 PageID #: 278

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	) )

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 25th day of August, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
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(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 274 of 418 PageID #: 279

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 25th day of August, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 26384653.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 275 of 418 PageID #: 280

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	) )

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its Answers to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:john@caglellc.com">john@caglellc.com</a>, John S. Appelbaum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
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dbuchanan@bjpc.com
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(314) 421-3400
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Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 276 of 418 PageID #: 281

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 4th day of October, 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 26568904.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 277 of 418 PageID #: 282

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCI	Ε,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	District
FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN	NG CORPORATION	)	Division:
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LI	LC.	)	
	Defendants.	)	

### **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that Copies of: (1) Plaintiff's Supplemental Interrogatory to Fairfield Processing; and (2) this Certificate of Service were sent via electronic mail to the attorney of record indicated below on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021, in Microsoft Word and PDF Format.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

John A. Mazzei, jmazzei@bjpc.com dbuchanan@bjpc.com 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, Missouri, 63101 (314) 421-3400 (314) 421-3128 (fax) ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

Respectfully Submitted, THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

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500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

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E-mail: john@caglellc.com Attorneys for Plaintiff Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 278 of 418 PageID #: 283

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,		)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	Division
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING	CORPORATION	)	Division:
A a d		)	
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC	•	)	
	Defendants.	)	

# PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL DEFENDANT'S ANSWERS TO DISCOVERY AND MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT THEREOF

COMES NOW, Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff"), by and through his attorneys The Cagle Law Firm, L.L.C. and for her Motion to Compel and Memorandum in Support of said Motion to Compel Defendant Brook Fairfield Processing Corp. ("Fairfield")'s Answers to Discovery pursuant to Missouri Supreme Court Rule 61, the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, and states as follows to the Court:

### INTRODUCTION

The instant case arises out of serious personal injuries sustained by Plaintiff resulting from a incident, on or about December 18-19, 2019, on the property of Fairfield. *See Plaintiff's Petition*. At said date and time, Plaintiff worked as a temporary employee retained to work on a loading bay on Fairfield's premises. *See Plaintiff's Petition*. As Plaintiff straddled the gap between a tractor-trailer to the loading bay in an attempt to remove a ramp connecting the two, the operator of said tractor-trailer, while distracted, unexpectedly pulled away. *Id*. The driver's actions forced Plaintiff to leap onto the bay, injuring her knee. *Id*.

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Despite numerous attempts, including several informal and formal requests to Fairfield (See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 1, E-mail Communication Between Counsel; See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 2, Plaintiff's Supplemental Interrogatory), Plaintiff has been unable to determine the identity of the truck driver in question, or the motor carrier who employed him.

Plaintiff served Fairfield with her First Interrogatories and Requests for Production on March 18, 2021. See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 3, First Propounded Discovery to Fairfield. Fairfield served Plaintiff with its objections to such discovery on April 6, 2021. See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 4, Fairfield's Objections to Plaintiff's Discovery. The majority of these objections hold no basis under Missouri law. Id. After serving Fairfield's counsel with an attempt to resolve, on June 6, 2021, Fairfield provided only seven documents, including an incident report, a mere twelve words of which are not redacted, and a surveillance video depicting neither the incident in question or Plaintiff in any way. Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 5, Fairfield's Supplemental Objections and Responses to Plaintiff's Discovery; Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 6, Fairfield's Redacted Incident Report. Moreover, Fairfield has ignored Plaintiff's Supplemental Interrogatory No. 19, requesting the bill of lading which stands to establish the identity of the truck driver in question and his employer. Despite representing that further documentation and supplemental responses were forthcoming, Plaintiff has received no correspondence on this case in some sixty (60) days.

As such, Plaintiff would request this Court overrule Fairfield's improper objections and compel appropriate responses and production pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules.

#### RULE

Under the explicit provisions of the Missouri Supreme Court Rules, "parties may obtain discovery regarding any matter, not privileged, that is relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending action, whether it relates to the claim or defense of the party seeking discovery or to

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the claim or defense of any other party, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition and location of any books, documents or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter." Mo. Sup. Ct. R. 56.01.

The Missouri rules of discovery allow parties to obtain information regarding any matter "relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending action" provided the matter is not privileged. Rule 56.01(b)(1); See also State ex. rel. Laurie Dean v. The Honorable Jon A. Cunningham, 182 S.W.3d 561 (Mo. 2006). Discovery serves to aid litigants in determining the facts and ascertaining all of the evidence with which to "develop their respective contentions and to present their respective sides of the issues framed by the pleadings." State ex rel Martel v. Gallagher, 797 S.W.2d 730, 731 (Mo. App. 1990). Missouri law grants discovery requests a broad scope or "a tendency towards liberality in discovery." State ex rel. Solfa v. Ely, 875 S.W.2d 5790, 581 (Mo. App. 1994). Evidence need only be reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence to become discoverable. In re Marriage of Hershewe, 931 S.W.2d 198, 201 (Mo. App. 1996). This includes not only evidence as to plaintiff's claims, but also evidence and documents regarding the defenses of one's adversary. Clark v. Faith Hospital Association, 472 S.W.2d 375 (Mo. 1971). "[I]f this right of discovery is to have practical value, the party invoking it should not be held to too strict a showing as to the contents of records that Islhe has never seen." State ex rel Iron Fireman Corp. v. Ward. 173 S.W.2d 920, 923 (Mo. banc 1943). When applying these rules, a "trial court's discretion to deny discovery is commensurately more limited." State ex rel Martel v. Gallagher at 731.

#### **ARGUMENT**

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# I. <u>Defendants Improperly Attempt to Shield Information Explicitly Contemplated by the Rules from Discovery.</u>

Defendants attempts to bar discovery of information specifically permitted under Rule 56.01.

As stated above the Rules of the Missouri Supreme Court permit the discovery regarding:

[A]ny matter, not privileged, that is relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending action, whether it relates to the claim or defense of the party seeking discovery or to the claim or defense of any other party, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition and location of any books, documents or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter.

Moreover, Missouri Supreme Court Rule 57.01(a) provides that:

[A]ny party may serve upon any other party written interrogatories. Interrogatories may relate to any matter that can be inquired into under Rule 56.01. An interrogatory otherwise proper is not necessarily objectionable merely because an answer to the interrogatory involves an opinion or contention that relates to fact or the application of law to fact, but the court may order that such an interrogatory need not be answered until after designated discovery has been completed or until a pretrial conference or other later time.

Interrogatories Nos. 3-4, and Requests for Production 9 speak to claims Plaintiff has made against Fairfield and seek information related to the identity of potential witnesses and the substance of the knowledge they might have. *See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5.* As such, the information requested therein is explicitly discoverable under Rule 56.01.

Furthermore, Plaintiff's Interrogatory No. 19, requests a bill of lading evidencing the identity of the carrier responsible for Plaintiff's injury. Such information is clearly contemplated by Rule 56.01, which renders discoverable the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter. Nevertheless, Defendant has failed to even provide a response to said request, leaving Plaintiff unable to prosecute her case.

Finally, Fairfield's objection to Interrogatory 16 and Request for Production Nos. 1 and 18-19, seeking any photographs, videotapes, or movies depicting the scene of the incident in Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 282 of 418 PageID #: 287

Fairfield's possession, falls flat under Missouri Supreme Court precedent. The Supreme Court in *State ex rel. McConaha v. Allen*, 979 S.W.2d 188, 189–90 (Mo. 1998) found that "[u]nder Rule 56.01(b)(3)(b) and this Court's decision in *Koehr*. . . surveillance videotape [are] statement[s] . . . discoverable without a showing of undue hardship. *Id*. As such, Plaintiff is categorically entitled to any evidence obtained via surveillance on behalf of Fairfield.

Nevertheless, Fairfield has objected on the basis of work product privilege and produced subject to said objection, one surveillance video containing neither the scene of the incident nor Plaintiff.

# III. <u>Defendants Have Failed To Provide Sufficient Evidence To Bar Discovery Via The Work Product Doctrine or Any Other Privilege.</u>

### A. <u>Defendants' Unsupported Claims of Privilege Are Improper Under Missouri Law.</u>

Moreover, in response to Interrogatories Nos. 5, 15, 17, and 18 and Requests for Production Nos. 1, 2, 15, 16, 18, and 19 to Fairfield, it raises the potential of work product, insured-insurer, or attorney-client privilege. *See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5.* However, such assertions are insufficient under Missouri law.

Claims of privilege or protection are considered impediments to discovery of the truth, deserving of careful scrutiny. See State ex rel. Health Midwest Develop. Group, Inc. v. Daugherty, 965 S.W.2d 841 (Mo. Banc 1998). Therefore, Defendant bears the burden of proving the applicability of any alleged exception to discovery. State ex re. State Board of Pharmacy v. Otto, 866 S.W.2d 480, 483 (Mo. App. W.D. 1993); State ex rel. Dixon v. Darnold, 939 S.W.2d 66, 70 (Mo. App. S.D. 1997). This burden includes a requirement that Defendants state with particularity the grounds for the objection and provide sufficiently specific facts to allow the Court to determine whether they have satisfied each and every element of the claimed privilege for every document or item they seek to withhold. State ex rel. Dixon v. Darnold, 939 S.W.2d

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66, 70 (Mo. App. S.D. 1997); Mo. R. Civ. Pro. 55.26 (a). Failure to prove any element of the claimed protection causes the entire claim to fail. *Id*.

A blanket assertion of protection is insufficient as a matter of law. *Id.*; *State ex rel. Freidman* v. *Provaznik*, 668 S.W.2d 76 (Mo. banc. 1984). Moreover, Missouri Courts have rejected claims of attorney-client privilege that were "generic," "non-specific," "hypothetical," "blanket assertions," or where such claims applied to matters "*potentially* privileged," or which "*may* require ... disclosure" of privileged communications. *Id.* at 117-18 (emphasis added).

As such, Fairfield's assertions of several potential privileges, without any supporting evidence, fall well short of their burden of proof. Fairfield fails to explain with particularity why the proffered discovery stands to expose privileged or confidential information. *See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5.* Put another way, Fairfield, attempts to usurp the authority of the Court, and unilaterally determine that privilege applies, that no exceptions to said privileges apply, and that they therefore need not produce whichever documents or information they so choose. Therefore, Plaintiff requests this Court to compel Fairfield's production of the requested information and documents.

B. <u>Defendants' Objections Fail to Properly Assert Work Product Privilege or Address the Potential Exception to It's Applicability.</u>

Moreover, Fairfield improperly asserts the protection of work product doctrine to bar large swaths of Plaintiff's propounded discovery. *See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit*5. Interrogatories No. 5, 15, and 17 and Requests for Production Nos. 1, 2, 15, 16, 18, and 19 request information related to any incident report or investigation conducted related to the December 18, 2019 incident, copies of said reports, and any photographs or statements related thereto. *Id*.

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Again, under Missouri Law, blanket assertions of privilege do not properly establish protection under work product doctrine. Instead, to assert this privilege, a party must "establish, via competent evidence, that the materials sought to be protected (1) are documents or tangible things, (2) were prepared in anticipation of litigation or trial, and (3) were prepared by or for a party or a representative of that party." *State ex rel. Ford Motor Co. v. Westbrooke*, 151 S.W3.d 364, 367 (Mo. banc 2004). Because any information related to these discovery requests would likely have preceded anticipation of litigation Fairfield may not properly assert work product protection.

Moreover, Plaintiff may discover statements, photographs, or other evidence obtained by the insurance company relating to the alleged incident not prepared in anticipation of litigation, but rather, in the ordinary course of business. *Ratcliff v. Sprint Missouri, Inc.*, 261 S.W.3d 534, 548 (Mo. Ct. App. W.D. 2008). As such, evidence prepared or collected in the ordinary course of business, and not as communications between the insurer and the insured, is not privileged. *Id.* Furthermore, as stated supra, any surveillance videos or photographs depicting Plaintiff are statements, discoverable without a showing of undue hardship. *Supra*.

As such, under Missouri Law, to assert work product protection, Fairfield must provide some competent evidence providing Plaintiff and the Court with some guidance as to whether such protection applies; these blanket assertions provide no such evidence. As such, Fairfield can not refute the possibility that the ordinary course of business exception to the insured insurer privilege, attorney-client privilege, or work product protection applies in this case. Fairfield has thus failed to carry their burden of proof and can not bar the propounded discovery via its unsupported assertions.

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Therefore, Plaintiff requests this Court overrule said objections and compel Fairfield to provide appropriate responses to Plaintiff's requests.

# III. Evidence That Fairfield or Its Agents, Employees, or Contractors Had Notice of The Dangerous Condition Is Admissible.

Fairfield makes further objections to Interrogatories Nos. 7, and 11, and Requests for Production Nos. 4, and 14, asserting that these requests exceed the scope of the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, are over broad, unduly burdensome, not appropriately limited, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. *See Exhibit 4; Exhibit* 5. Once again, when tested against Missouri Law, Fairfield's argument falls flat. The above listed Interrogatories and Requests for Production seek information related to prior incidents of accidents occurring under similar circumstances to that which cause Plaintiff's injury. *Exhibit 3*.

While "evidence of similar acts of negligence generally is not admissible to demonstrate that a party acted negligently at a subsequent incident", (Lohmann v. Norfolk & Western Railway Company, 948 S.W.2d 659, 671 (Mo.App. W.D.1997)), a defendant's knowledge of prior accidents, or information standing to show that defendant should have, using ordinary care, known of a dangerous condition is far from a novel concept in Missouri common law. State ex rel. Stolfa v. Ely, 875 S.W.2d 579, 581 (Mo. Ct. App. 1994). Furthermore, under Missouri Law, the question of whether a company has procedures or policies, but does not enforce them, that is unquestionably relevant. See Ybarra v. Burlington Northern Inc., 689 F.2d 147, 150 (8th Cir. 1982). The same is true for violation of company standards, industry standards, or regulations and statutes. Reed v. Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Co., 239 S.W.2d 328 (Mo. 1951); First National Bank of Fort Smith v. Kansas City Southern Railway Co., 865 S.W.2d 719 (Mo. App. W.D. 1993).

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Therefore, Plaintiff's discovery requests relating directly to prior incidents relate directly to Fairfield's knowledge of the dangerous condition.

As such, once again, despite Fairfield's attempt to assume the role of finder of law, there remain circumstances where the information requested is, not only discoverable, but specifically admissible. Therefore, Plaintiff would request this Court overrule said objections, and compel proper responses.

# IV. Evidence Of Fairfield's Policies And Procedures Tend To Prove The Elements Of Its Negligence and Are Therefore Discoverable.

Defendant Investment further objects to Plaintiff's Interrogatories Nos. 12 and 18, and Requests for Production Nos. 12, 13, 20, 21, 22, and 23 seeking Fairfield's policies and procedures regarding the training it provided, or regulations or policies it adopted, stating that such requests are overbroad, vague, and ambiguous. *See Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5*.

Missouri recognizes not only the theory of vicarious liability of a corporation for the negligence of its employees, but also for its own. *Spence v. BNSF Railway Co.*, 2018 WL 3185473 (Mo. 2018).

Such evidence may tend to prove Fairfield's own negligence. Under Missouri Law, the question of whether a company has procedures or policies, but does not enforce them, that is unquestionably relevant. *See Ybarra v. Burlington Northern Inc.*, 689 F.2d 147, 150 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1982). The same is true for violation of company standards, industry standards, or regulations and statutes. *Reed v. Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Co.*, 239 S.W.2d 328 (Mo. 1951); *First National Bank of Fort Smith v. Kansas City Southern Railway Co.*, 865 S.W.2d 719 (Mo. App. W.D. 1993) (finding evidence that a company adopted rules or standards but failed to follow them in conscious (or flagrant) disregard for the public, presented a jury question as to punitive

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damages). As such, evidence that Fairfield adopted certain policies and procedures, but failed to implement or enforce them is not only discoverable, but admissible to the jury.

As such, Plaintiff requests this Court overrule Fairfield's objections and compel their production of the relevant policies and procedures, and associated training manuals.

### **CONCLUSION**

Plaintiff served specific and directed discovery to Defendant based upon the elements of her asserted claims. This discovery sought material clearly relevant to each of these claims. Such documents would not only likely lead to the discovery of admissible evidence, but may in fact be admissible evidence. In response, Defendants have filed multiple blanket, general objections, with no foundation in Missouri law. As such, Plaintiff would ask the Court to enter its Order requiring full and complete answers to each of the Interrogatories and Requests identified above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for this Court to overrule Defendants Ledbetter's and SWBT's Objections to Interrogatories and Request for Production of Documents, Order Defendants to answer and make all disclosures called for in Plaintiff's discovery within twenty (20) days without further objection and for any such other and further relief as this Court deems appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

By: CFA

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO #71766

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St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: <u>zane@caglellc.com</u> E-Mail: <u>john@caglellc.com</u>

Attorney for Plaintiff

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 288 of 418 PageID #: 293

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent via electronic mail and through this Court's Electronic Filing Service for service upon Counsel for Defendant at the address listed below on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

John A. Mazzei, jmazzei@bjpc.com dbuchanan@bjpc.com 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, Missouri, 63101 (314) 421-3400 (314) 421-3128 (fax) Attorneys For Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO #71766

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## Mazzei, John

From: John Appelbaum, Jr <john@caglellc.com>

Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 1:49 PM

**To:** Mazzei, John

Subject: RE: Fontania Lawrence v. Fairfield Processing & Venture Express

Good afternoon John,

As I stated on the phone, Ms. Lawrence has more than \$75,000 in medical bills. However, at this point we do not know what the billed v. paid portion will look like or what we plan to submit. Until we have further information, we have no intention of amending our Petition or altering the amount pled.

Thanks and take care,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102 Office: (314)-241-1700

Cell: (314)-315-5928 John@caglellc.com

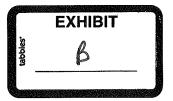
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From: Mazzei, John <jmazzei@bjpc.com>
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 11:39 AM
To: John Appelbaum, Jr <john@caglellc.com>

**Subject:** Fontania Lawrence v. Fairfield Processing & Venture Express

Good Talking to You, John:



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Can you confirm you are seeking over \$75,000 in this case?



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 jmazzei@bjpc.com

Website

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE: This message is from a law firm and contains information for the sole use of the intended recipient that may be privileged, attorney work product, or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, any distribution, dissemination, or copying of this message, including any attachments, is strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, or are not the proper recipient, please notify the sender at either the email address or telephone number above and delete this email (and any attachments) from your computer without copying or forwarding it. Thank you.

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JS 44 (Rev. 04/21)

## **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

1. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS			
Fontania Lawrer	nce		Fairfield Processing Corporation Venture Express, LLC		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff St. Louis City		•	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Fairfield, CT		
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		NOTE: IN LAND O	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name.	Address, and Telephone Number)	Attorneys (If Known	)		
.,	aum, Jr., The Cagle Law Firm, 50		ei, Brown & James, P.C., 800 Market St.,		
	95, St. Louis, MO 63102 (314) 24	l l	ris, MO 63101 (314) 421-3400		
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF I	PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)		
U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		PTF DEF  X 1		
2 U.S. Government Defendant	X 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item)		2 Incorporated and Principal Place 5 X 5 of Business In Another State		
		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.		
CONTRACT	TORTS  PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL II	FORFEITURE/PENALTY NJURY 625 Drug Related Seizure	BANKRUPTCY		
110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgmen 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise  REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	310 Airplane 365 Personal Ing 315 Airplane Product Liability 367 Health Care 320 Assault, Libel & Pharmaceut	jury - ability   690 Other   6	423 Withdrawal		
V ODICIN (%)	Confinemen				
	emoved from 3 Remanded from Appellate Court	Reopened Anotl			
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	brief description of cause.	you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional s	tatutes unless diversity):		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	Personal Injury  CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS AC UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$ \$75,000	CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:  JURY DEMAND:   Yes   No		
VIII. RELATED CAS IF ANY	E(S)  (See instructions):  JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE	SIGNATURE (	OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD			
December 15, 2021	/s/ John A. Ma	azzel			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			V. C. HIDOD		
RECEIPT # A	MOUNT APPLYING	G IFP JUDGE	MAG. JUDGE		

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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Fontania Lawrence	) )
Plaintiff,	) )
	) Cons No
v.	) Case No.
Fairfield Processing Corporation, et al.	)
-	)
Defendant,	)
	ORIGINAL FILING FORM
THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETE WHEN INITIATING A NEW CASE.	D AND VERIFIED BY THE FILING PARTY
THIS SAME CAUSE, OR A SU	JBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT COMPLAINT, WAS
PREVIOUSLY FILED IN THIS COURT	Γ AS CASE NUMBER
AND ASSIGNED TO THE HONORAB	LE JUDGE
THIS CAUSE IS RELATED, B	UT IS NOT SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO ANY
PREVIOUSLY FILED COMPLAINT. T	THE RELATED CASE NUMBER ISAND
THAT CASE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE	E HONORABLE THIS CASE MAY,
THEREFORE, BE OPENED AS AN OR	RIGINAL PROCEEDING.
NEITHER THIS SAME CAUSI	E, NOR A SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT
	LY FILED IN THIS COURT, AND THEREFORE
MAY BE OPENED AS AN ORIGINAL	PROCEEDING.
The undersigned affirms that the infor	mation provided above is true and correct.
Date: 12/15/2021	/s/ John A. Mazzei
	Signature of Filing Party

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 293 of 418 PageID #: 298

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	) Case No
vs.	) St. Louis City Circuit Court ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.,	)
Defendants.	) )

### NOTICE OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL TO PLAINTIFF

TO PLAINTIFF'S COUNSEL OF RECORD:

John S. Appelbaum, Jr.
The Cagle Law Firm
500 North Broadway, Suite 1605
St. Louis, MO 63102
E-mail: john@caglellc.com

You are hereby notified that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation, by and through its attorneys, have filed its Notice of Removal in the above-captioned cause to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Eastern Division, via ECF, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021. Attached hereto are copies of the papers filed to effect such removal.

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 294 of 418 PageID #: 299

## **BROWN & JAMES, P.C.**

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei # 51398MO
imazzei@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys for Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

<u>/s/ John A. Mazzei</u>

27000449.1/jbk

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 295 of 418 PageID #: 300

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	
Plaintiff,	) Case No
vs.	) St. Louis City Circuit Court ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC,	)
Defendants.	) )

## **NOTICE OF CORPORATE DISCLOSURE**

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation, by and through counsel, and hereby discloses the following organizational interests pursuant to Local Rule 7.01 and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 7.1:

- 1. If the subject corporation is a corporation,
  - a. Any parent companies of the corporation: None.
  - b. Subsidiaries not wholly owned by the corporation: None.
  - c. Any affiliates of the corporation that have been issued shares in the public: None.

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei #51398MO
imazzei@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys for Defendant
Fairfield Processing Corporation

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 296 of 418 PageID #: 301

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

MOED - CM/ESE(L4Y.22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filedhttps://moed-ecf-sso.dcn/cgi-bin/DktRpt.pl?145058336546495-L\_1\_0-1

GREGORY J. LINHARES, CLERK A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI DEPUTY CLERK

CLOSED, REMAND

## **U.S. District Court**

Eastern District of Missouri (St. Louis)

CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 4:21-cv-01464-SRC

Lawrence v. Fairfield Processing Corporation et al

Assigned to: District Judge Stephen R. Clark

Demand: \$75,000

Case in other court: Circuit Court for St. Louis City, 2022-

CC10591

Cause: 28:1332 Diversity-Personal Injury

Date Filed: 12/15/2021

Date Terminated: 01/31/2022

Jury Demand: Both

Nature of Suit: 360 P.I.: Other

Jurisdiction: Diversity

## **Plaintiff**

Fontania Lawrence

represented by John S. Appelbaum, Jr

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM LLC

500 N. Broadway

**Suite 1605** 

St. Louis, MO 63102

314-315-5928

Email: john@caglellc.com

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Designation: Retained Bar Status: Active

V.

## **Defendant**

**Fairfield Processing Corporation** 

represented by John A. Mazzei

BROWN AND JAMES PC - St Louis

Bank of America Plaza

800 Market St., Suite 1100

St. Louis, MO 63101

314-242-5347

Email: jmazzei@bjpc.com

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Designation: Retained Bar Status: Active



FEB - 7 2022

22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE

### **Defendant**

Venture Express, Inc. TERMINATED: 12/15/2021

## **Defendant**

## Venture Express, LLC

Email All Attorneys (will not send to terminated parties)

Email All Attorneys and Additional Recipients (will not send to terminated parties)

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
12/15/2021	1	NOTICE OF REMOVAL from St. Louis City Circuit Court, case number 2022-CC10591, with receipt number AMOEDC-9029662, in the amount of \$402 Jury Demand,, filed by Fairfield Processing Corporation. (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit A, # 2 Exhibit B, # 3 Civil Cover Sheet, # 4 Original Filing Form)(Mazzei, John) (Entered: -12/15/2021)
12/15/2021	2	NOTICE OF FILING NOTICE OF REMOVAL filed by Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation Sent To: Plaintiff (Mazzei, John) (Entered: 12/15/2021)
12/15/2021	3	DISCLOSURE OF ORGANIZATIONAL INTERESTS CERTIFICATE by Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation. Parent companies: None, Subsidiaries: None, Publicly held company: None,. (Mazzei, John) (Entered: 12/15/2021)
-12/15/2021	4	Petition (Removal/Transfer) Received From: Circuit Court of St. Louis City, filed by Fontania Lawrence.(JKL) (Entered: 12/15/2021)
12/15/2021	<u>5</u>	ANSWER to Petition by Fairfield Processing Corporation.(JKL) Modified on 12/15/2021 to correct docket text(JKL). (Entered: 12/15/2021)
12/15/2021	6	First Amended Petition (Removal/Transfer) Received From: Circuit Court of St. Louis City, filed by Fontania Lawrence.(JKL) Modified on 12/15/2021 to edit docket text(JKL). (Entered: 12/15/2021)
12/15/2021	7	ANSWER to First Amended Petition by Fairfield Processing Corporation.(JKL) (Entered: 12/15/2021)
12/15/2021	8	SUPPLEMENTAL re 1 Notice of Removal Petition, State Court Docket Sheet by Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation. (Mazzei, John) (Entered: 12/15/2021)
12/15/2021	9	RULE 67.02(a) DISMISSAL OF VENTURE EXPRESS INC.WITHOUT PREJUDICE by Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence (Attachments: # 1 Attachment Affidavit of Shawn Applegate)(JKL) (Entered: 12/15/2021)
12/15/2021	10	Plaintiff's MOTION to Compel Defendant's Answers to Discovery and Memorandum in support thereof by Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence. (JKL) (Entered: 12/15/2021)
12/15/2021		Case Opening Notification. Judge Assigned: Honorable Stephen R. Clark. (JKL) (Entered: 12/15/2021)
12/22/2021	11	ORDER: The Court orders the Defendants to file, no later than January 7, 2022, supplemental briefing and evidence proving by a preponderance of the evidence their allegation that the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000 exclusive of interest and costs. See Dark Cherokee, 574 U.S. at 8889. The parties are further directed to address whether Defendants timely removed the case. Lawrence must file her response no later than January 21, 2022, and Defendants must file their reply no later

		than January 31, 2022. Signed by District Judge Stephen R. Clark on 12/22/2021. (CLO) (Entered: 12/22/2021)
12/31/2021	12	MOTION to Remand Case to Circuit Court of St. Louis City by Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence. (Appelbaum, John) Modified on 1/3/2022 (CBL). (Entered: 12/31/2021)
12/31/2021	13	MEMORANDUM in Support of Motion re 12 MOTION to Remand Case to Circuit Court of St. Louis City filed by Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence. (Appelbaum, John) Modified on 1/3/2022 (CBL). REMARK: see doc #14-1 for exhibits. (JAB). (Entered: 12/31/2021)
01/04/2022	14	Amended MEMORANDUM in Support of Motion re 12 MOTION to Remand Case to Circuit Court of St. Louis City filed by Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence. (Appelbaum, John) (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit Plaintiff's Exhibits)(Appelbaum, John) Modified on 1/4/2022; corrected event from motion to memo in support (JAB). (Entered: 01/04/2022)
01/07/2022	15	MEMORANDUM in Opposition re 12 MOTION to Remand Case to State Court filed by Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation. (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit Petition, # 2 Exhibit Email, # 3 Exhibit Email)(Mazzei, John) (Entered: 01/07/2022)
01/21/2022	<u>16</u>	REPLY to Response to Motion re 12 MOTION to Remand Case to St. Louis City filed by Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence. (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit, # 2 Exhibit) (Appelbaum, John) (Entered: 01/21/2022)
01/31/2022	17	MEMORANDUM AND ORDER. (See Full Order.) Because Fairfield failed to secure its fellow defendant's consent to removal, the Court grants Lawrence's 12 motion, remands this case to the St. Louis City Circuit Court, and, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c), orders the Clerk of Court to mail a certified copy of this order of remand to the clerk of the state court. Signed by District Judge Stephen R. Clark on 1/31/2022. (Certified order and docket sheet sent to Clerk, St. Louis City Circuit Court.) (CBL) (Entered: 01/31/2022)

U. E.	NITED STATES DISTRICT COLF ASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSO TRUE OF EASTERN DIVISION EASTERN BY:	COPY OF THE ORIGINAL STATES DISTRICT COURT I DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	) )	DEPUTY CLERK
Plaintiff(s),	) )	
<b>v.</b>	) Case No. 4:21-cv-01	464-SRC
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION et al.,	) ) ) 	RECEIVEN
Defendant(s)	)	FEB - 7 2022
	Memorandum and Order	22 <sup>ND</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE BY DEPUTY

Issues regarding timeliness and the amount in controversy aside, Fairfield defectively removed this case because it failed to secure its fellow defendant's consent to removal.

Moreover, Fairfield's argument that it need not have secured Venture Express, LLC's consent lacks merit because Venture Express, LLC is not a mere nominal party to the suit. Accordingly, the Court remands this case to the state court.

## I. Background

Over a year ago, Lawrence filed this lawsuit in state court. <u>Doc. 4</u>. In her original complaint, he claimed that the negligence of Fairfield and Venture Express, Inc. caused her to suffer injuries while she worked on a loading dock. *Id.* While still in state court, Lawrence dismissed Venture Express, Inc., <u>Doc. 9</u>, and named Venture Express, LLC as a defendant instead, <u>Doc. 6</u>. Lawrence served Venture Express, LLC with her amended complaint on April 27, 2021. <u>Doc. 1-1 at pp. 70–72</u>. After that, and mere days before the expiration of the one-year

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A "petition" in Missouri state court serves as the analogue of a federal "complaint," and the Court uses the latter term.

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ATRUE DOME OF CHECKED COURT
HINTED STATES AND THE COURT
ON STREET THE STATE OF MISSOURI
RS:

removal deadline, see 28 U.S.C. § 1446(c), Fairfield removed Lawrence's suit to this Court, <u>Doc.</u>

1. After the Court ordered Fairfield to come forward with evidence proving its amount-incontroversy allegation, <u>Doc. 11</u>, Lawrence moved for remand on several bases: that Fairfield
failed to obtain its co-defendant's consent to removal, that Fairfield untimely removed the case,
and that Fairfield fails to prove an amount in controversy greater than \$75,000. <u>Doc. 13</u>.

### II. Standard

A defendant may remove to federal court any state court civil action over which the federal court could exercise original jurisdiction. 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a). Among several prerequisites for removal, "[w]hen a civil action is removed solely under section 1441(a), all defendants who have been properly joined and served must join in or consent to the removal of the action." 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b)(2)(A); see § 1441(a). All doubts as to the propriety of exercising federal jurisdiction over a removed case must be resolved in favor of remand to state court. In re Prempro Prods. Liab. Litig., 591 F.3d 613, 620 (8th Cir. 2010).

#### III. Discussion

While Lawrence has made several arguments in support of her motion, her first argument alone, that Fairfield failed to obtain the consent of its co-defendant for removal, justifies remand. "Where there are multiple defendants, all must join in a [notice] to remove within thirty days of service." *Christiansen v. West Branch Community Sch. Dist.*, 674 F.3d 927, 932 (8th Cir. 2012) (second alteration in original) (quoting *Thorn v. Amalgamated Transit Union*, 305 F.3d 826, 833 (8th Cir. 2002)); see 28 U.S.C. 1446(b)(2)(A). Here, the parties agree that defendant Venture Express, LLC has not indicated, in any form, its consent to the removal of this case. Doc. 14 at p. 4; Doc. 15 at p. 5. The parties also do not dispute that Lawrence properly served Venture

Express, LLC with the operative, amended state-court complaint. <u>Doc. 1 at</u> ¶ 7; <u>Doc. 1-1 at</u> pp. 70–72.

Fairfield argues—citing only out-of-circuit cases—that it did not need to secure Venture Express, LLC's consent because Venture Express, LLC is merely a "nominal" defendant. <u>Doc. 15 at p. 5</u>; see, e.g., Hartford Fire. Ins. Co. v. Harleyville Mut. Ins. Co., 736 F.3d 255, 260 (4th Cir. 2013). Indeed, the Eighth Circuit has held that "nominal defendants, those against whom no real relief is sought," need not consent to removal. Thorn, 305 F.3d at 833 (internal quotation marks omitted). Fairfield argues that Venture Express, LLC is a nominal party because Lawrence, when she filed her amended complaint, only replaced Venture Express, Inc. in the caption at the top of the first page of the complaint and failed to make the same substitution on page 5 which still names Venture Express, Inc. as the defendant against whom Lawrence brings count 1. Compare <u>Doc. 6 at p. 1 with p. 5</u>. Thus, says Fairfield, Lawrence seeks no relief against Venture Express, LLC and it is merely a nominal party. <u>Doc. 15 at p. 5</u>.

This argument lacks merit. Lawrence substituted Venture Express, LLC for Venture Express, Inc. in her amended complaint, voluntarily dismissed Venture Express, Inc., and properly served Venture Express, LLC with the amended complaint. Moreover, Lawrence named Venture Express, LLC as a defendant in the caption of the amended complaint. Venture Express, LLC does not become a nominal party as the result of a typographical error.

In her reply, Lawrence confirmed that she alleges "vicarious and direct negligence" against "Venture Express LLC." <u>Doc. 16 at p. 3.</u> Put plainly, Lawrence's amended complaint seeks "real relief," *Thorn*, <u>305 F.3d at 833</u>, against Venture Express, LLC, and section 1446 required Fairfield to secure Venture Express, LLC's consent to removal, *see Augustine v. Target Corp.*, <u>259 F. Supp. 2d 919, 922</u> (E.D. Mo. 2003) ("Moreover, [defendant] Leboyd is not a

'nominal party,' as he would be affected by an adverse judgment on the merits." (citing *Thorn*, 305 F.3d at 833)). The Court rejects Fairfield's contrary assertion.

## IV. Conclusion

Because Fairfield failed to secure its fellow defendant's consent to removal, the Court grants Lawrence's [12] motion, remands this case to the St. Louis City Circuit Court, and, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c), orders the Clerk of Court to mail a certified copy of this order of remand to the clerk of the state court.

So Ordered this 31st day of January 2022.

STEPHEN R. CLARK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 305 of 418 PageID #: 310

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)	
Plair	) ntiff, )	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.	)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING COR	PORATION )	Division.
And	)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.	)	
Defe	ndants. )	

## **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**

COMES NOW Zane T. Cagle and The Cagle Law Firm, LLC, and enter their appearance for Plaintiffs, in this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

BY: /s/ Zane T. Cagle
Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775
500 North Broadway, Suite 1605
St. Louis, MO 63102
Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: <u>zane@caglellc.com</u>
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 306 of 418 PageID #: 311

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was sent this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022 to the following via the Court's e filing system:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

BY: /s/ Zane T. Cagle
Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775
500 North Broadway, Suite 1605
St. Louis, MO 63102
Phone: (314) 241-1700

Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: <u>zane@caglellc.com</u>
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 307 of 418 PageID #: 312

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 308 of 418 PageID #: 313

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 309 of 418 PageID #: 314

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 310 of 418 PageID #: 315

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,		
	Plaintiff,	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
vs.		) Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING	CORPORATION	) Division.
And		) )
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC	·•	) )
	Defendants.	)

## MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS ATTORNEY OF RECORD

COMES NOW John S. Appelbaum Jr. and hereby moves this Court to Withdraw as Attorney of Record for the Plaintiff.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbarm Jr., MO#71766 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: john@caglellc.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was served upon the attorneys of record via electronic filing with the Clerk of this Court on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766

Electronically Filed - City of St. Louis - February 07, 2022 - 01:02 PM

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 312 of 418 PageID #: 317

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

Io.: 2022 <b>-</b> CC10591

## PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL FROM DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence (hereafter "Plaintiff") by and through her attorneys of record and for her Motion to Compel discovery from Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation (hereinafter "Defendant") and states to this Honorable Court as follows:

- 1. This action arises out of an incident on December 19, 2019, at a facility here in the City of St. Louis. See Plaintiff's Petition ¶ 6.
- 2. Plaintiff alleges she sustained injuries and damages from an incident when working on a loading dock when a tractor trailer started moving forward. *Id.* at ¶ 16-19.
- 3. On December 29, 2020, Plaintiff filed this lawsuit.
- 4. On March 18, 2021, Plaintiff propounded written discovery requests to Defendant. See Plaintiff's Exhibit#3, attached hereto.
- 5. On April 2, 2021, Defendant filed objections to Plaintiff written discovery requests.

  See Plaintiff's Exhibit#4, attached hereto.
- 6. Subsequently, Plaintiff attempted to resolve discovery disputes with Defendant.
- 7. On May 5, 2021, Defendant filed responses and answers to Plaintiff's written discovery requests.

- 8. Defendant contended that a protective order needed to be entered before they could respond to Plaintiff's written discovery requests.
- 9. On August 11, 2021, this Court entered the agreed protective order in this case.
- 10. On October 4, 2021, Defendant filed answers to Plaintiff's interrogatories. See Plaintiff's Exhibit#5, attached hereto.
- 11. On October 4, 2021, Plaintiff filed a supplement interrogatory to Defendant. Said interrogatory requested that Defendant produce the bill of lading or any other document which identify the tractor trailer which Plaintiff alleges contributed to cause her injuries and damages. See Plaintiff's Exhibit #7, attached hereto.
- 12. To date, Defendant has never provided answer to Plaintiff's supplemental discovery requests on October 4, 2021.
- 13. On December 8, 2021, after attempts to resolve discovery disputes Plaintiff filed a Motion to Compel discovery from Defendant. See Plaintiff's Exhibit#8, attached hereto along with Exhibits#1-#6, previously attached and filed with said motion.
- 14. On December 15, 2021, Defendant filed a notice of removal and removed this action to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.
- 15. On January 31, 2022, this case was remanded back to this Court.
- 16. On February 16, 2022, this Court entered an order setting this matter for trial on October 3, 2022.
- 17. Plaintiff needs to discover the identity of the operator of the tractor trailer alleged in Plaintiff's Petition so that they can be added as a party to this lawsuit.

- 18. Defendant was notified to preserve the requested documents on December 30, 2019, and pursuant to Federal law should have been in possession of the requested documents at that time. See Plaintiff's Exhibit#9, attached hereto.
- 19. Plaintiff will be prejudice if Defendant is allowed to play games with discovery and not produce relevant discoverable documents and information.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays this Court enter an order granting Plaintiff's Motion to Compel discovery from Defendant and order that they information and documents be produced within twenty (20) days and for any further relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

Fmail:<u>zane@caglellc.com</u>

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 315 of 418 PageID #: 320

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was served upon the attorneys of record via electronic filing with the Clerk of this Court on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C. John A. Mazzei, jmazzei@bjpc.com dbuchanan@bjpc.com 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, Missouri, 63101 Phone: (314) 421-3400

Phone: (314) 421-3400 Fax: (314) 421-3128 Attorneys for Defendant

Fairfield Processing Corporation

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700

By

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail:<u>zane@caglellc.com</u>
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 316 of 418 PageID #: 321

## John Appelbaum, Jr

From:

John Appelbaum, Jr

Sent:

Friday, July 16, 2021 12:23 PM

To:

'Mazzei, John'

Subject:

RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Attachments:

Ltr to OPC re Discovery-7-16-21.pdf

Good afternoon John,

Please find attached our correspondence related to the above styled case.

Thanks and take care,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102 Office: (314)-241-1700

Cell: (314)-315-5928 <u>John@caglellc.com</u>

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE—THIS E-MAIL TRANSMISSION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, OR EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. If the reader of this transmission is NOT the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone at 314-241-1700 and delete this message from your system.

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From: John Appelbaum, Jr

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 2:45 PM
To: 'Mazzei, John' <jmazzei@bjpc.com>
Subject: RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Thanks for touching base, I've saved the documents to our file. I'll keep an eye out for the Interrogatory and supplemental responses.

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 317 of 418 PageID #: 322

Have a good weekend,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102 Office: (314)-241-1700

Cell: (314)-315-5928 <u>John@caglellc.com</u>

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE-- THIS E-MAIL TRANSMISSION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, OR EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. If the reader of this transmission is **NOT** the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone at 314-241-1700 and delete this message from your system.

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From: Mazzei, John < imazzei@bjpc.com > Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 11:43 AM

To: John Appelbaum, Jr < john@caglellc.com > Subject: RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Not yet. I provided initial responses to your request for production with what I have in our case file. I will meet with my clients to supplement the responses and send you interrogatory anwers.

Have a good weekend.



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 jmazzei@bjpc.com

Website

From: John Appelbaum, Jr < john@caglellc.com > Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:17 PM
To: Mazzei, John < jmazzei@bjpc.com >

Subject: RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Good afternoon John,

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 318 of 418 PageID #: 323

I don't anticipate that being a problem. I'll look forward to your responses. Also, were you able to find any further information on the trucking company involved?

Thanks and take care,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102 Office: (314)-241-1700 Cell: (314)-315-5928 John@caglellc.com

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From: Mazzei, John < imazzei@bjpc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 9:41 AM
To: John Appelbaum, Jr < iohn@caglellc.com>
Subject: RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Hi, John:

We are not going to just rely on our objections. We are going to be sending you discovery responses as well as a privilege log. Can we revisit the objections after we provide discovery responses?



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 jmazzei@bjpc.com

Website

From: John Appelbaum, Jr < john@caglellc.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 3:18 PM

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 319 of 418 PageID #: 324

To: Mazzei, John < <u>imazzei@bjpc.com</u>>
Subject: RE: Lawrence v. Fairfield Et. Al.

Good afternoon John,

Please find attached Plaintiff's formal attempt to resolve letter regarding the above styled case.

Thanks and take care,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102 Office: (314)-241-1700

Cell: (314)-315-5928 John@caglellc.com

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From: Mazzei, John <<u>jmazzei@bjpc.com</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:25 AM
To: John Appelbaum, Jr <<u>john@caglellc.com</u>>

Subject: RE: Lawrence

We got it off the internet. This is the best information I have right now. I will keep on digging.



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 imazzei@bjpc.com

Website | Bio



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 320 of 418 PageID #: 325

jmazzei@bjpc.com

Website

From: John Appelbaum, Jr [mailto:john@caglellc.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:21 AM To: Mazzei, John < <u>imazzei@bipc.com</u>>

Subject: RE: Lawrence

Thank you John,

Can I ask where you got this info? This was the first entity I served and they signed an affidavit stating they have not delivered in the St. Louis area in some time. I would like to be sure which entity is responsible.

Thanks and take care,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.



500 N. Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis Missouri, 63102

Office: (314)-241-1700 Cell: (314)-315-5928 John@caglellc.com

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From: Mazzei, John < imazzei@bipc.com > Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:07 AM To: John Appelbaum, Jr < iohn@caglellc.com >

Subject: Lawrence

Murfreesboro, TN Corporate Office 304 Robert Rose Dr Murfreesboro, TN 37129 615-793-9500 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 321 of 418 PageID #: 326

### https://www.ventureexpress.com/



John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 imazzei@bjnc.com

Website | Bio

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John Mazzei | Principal 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-242-5347 |mazzei@bjpc.com

Website

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 322 of 418 PageID #: 327



## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENC	CE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSI	NG CORPORATION	į	
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, I	LC.	, )	
	Defendants.	)	

## PLAINTIFF'S FIRST INTERROGATORIES DIRECTED TO **DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, ("Plaintiff") pursuant to Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 57.01, and hereby propounds the following First Interrogatories Directed to Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), to be answered in writing, under oath and according to law.

#### **INTERROGATORIES**

19. Is there a bill of lading or any other document describing in detail, the identity of the carrier who owned/operated the truck/tractor/trailer at the time of the accident? If so, please list the custodian of each such document, the title of each, the preparer and employer of each and attach a copy of said document to your responses hereto.

ANSWER:

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

By: John S. Appelbarm Jr., MO#71766

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 323 of 418 PageID #: 328

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent electronic mail for service upon the Defendant to the attorneys of record indicated below on March 18, 2021:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

John S. Appelbaum Jr. MO#71766

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 324 of 418 PageID #: 329



## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)	
Plaintifi	f, )	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
vs.	)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPO	ration (	DIVIDIOII.
And	)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.	)	
Defenda	ants.	

## PLAINTIFF'S FIRST REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS DIRECTED TO DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, ("Plaintiff") by and through her attorneys of record sand pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules and Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure and for her First Requests for Production of Documents Directed to Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield") and request that said documents be produced to 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605 with thirty (30) days:

1. Any investigative reports, videos, photos, or other documentary evidence, including security footage, possessed by or on behalf of Fairfield related to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, including copies of any and all photographs, digital images, videotape, motion pictures, movies and/or any other visual depictions of any kind of the condition on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

### **RESPONSE:**

2. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting any statements obtained from any witness, person, who claim to have, knowledge regarding the incident at issue

as described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages. (<u>Note</u>: If claiming a privilege please provided a privilege log).

RESPONSE:

Electronically Filed - City of St. Louis - May 13, 2022 - 12:40 PM

3. Copies of any statements, either written or recorded or notes of statements taken from Plaintiff.

#### **RESPONSE:**

4. Any and all documents, reports and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting notice and/or knowledge of any complaints, concerns, claims and/or lawsuits involving the alleged dangerous condition(s) of the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition during the time period between December 19, 2018 and December 19, 2019.

#### **RESPONSE:**

5. Certified copies of the declaration pages and all policies of insurance issued to Fairfield, including liability coverage, and any limits of liabilities for the allegations set forth in Plaintiff's petition.

#### **RESPONSE:**

6. Copies of any and all medical records and reports of any kind whatsoever relating to and/or regarding the Plaintiff.

#### **RESPONSE:**

7. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever that any expert witness you intend to have testify at trial has reviewed which relates to or in any way concerns the incident at issue as more fully described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, or which relates to or in any way concerns the injuries and damages suffered and sustained by Plaintiff, or concerns the litigation of this cause in any way whatsoever.

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#### RESPONSE:

8. A curriculum vitae or resume for each expert witness or non-retained expert whom you expect to call to testify at the trial of this cause.

#### **RESPONSE:**

9. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever which reflect the identity of the employees, agents and/or servants, or contractors of Fairfield on duty at the loading dock alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

#### **RESPONSE:**

10. Please identify the names, addresses, employer, and job title of any individuals which communicated with the Plaintiff subsequent to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition.

#### **RESPONSE:**

11. Any documents which reflect the ownership of the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

#### **RESPONSE:**

12. Any and all documents, materials, company manuals, handbooks, handouts, pamphlets, brochures, videos, DVDs, or similar materials reflecting any policies and procedures, standing orders, company issued rules or regulations, directives or notices, safety policies or programs, in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Fairfield in instructing or controlling their employees' agents', and/or contractors', work, activities, job performance, regarding the maintenance and repair of, or removal of snow and ice from, any sidewalks on Premises in effect on December 19, 2019.

#### **RESPONSE**:

13. Documents reflecting Fairfield's written company policy(ies) regarding suppression, destruction or disposal of evidence in connection with anticipated litigation and/or claims in effect during the period of December 19, 2019 to present.

#### **RESPONSE:**

14. A copy of any and all safety inspections and/or audits performed on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition during the time period of December 19, 2018 and December 19, 2019.

#### **RESPONSE:**

15. All e-mails, faxes, messages, internet communication, memos, or similar communication between Fairfield and Fairfield's employees and/or agents concerning the incident alleged in Plaintiffs' Petition. Note: said request does not include any communications with Fairfield's counsel.

#### **RESPONSE:**

16. Any documents concerning this Incident provided to any third person by Fairfield immediately following said Incident, excluding those to attorneys.

#### **RESPONSE:**

17. A copy of any logs, sign-in sheets, or time cards which reflect the identity of all individual employees, agents, or contractors on the loading dock on December 19, 2019.

#### RESPONSE:

18. Any investigative reports, videos, photos, or other documentary evidence, including security footage, possessed by or on behalf of Decedent related to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition.

#### **RESPONSE:**

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19. Copies of any and all photographs, digital images, videotape, motion pictures, movies and/or any other visual depictions of any kind of the condition of the loading dock, and the Incident as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

#### **RESPONSE**

20. All documents, materials, company manuals, company issued rules and regulations, directives or notices in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Defendants in controlling their employees and/or agents' work, activities, job performance, regarding supervision and operation of the loading dock and any safety precautions associated therewith.

#### **RESPONSE:**

21. Any of Defendant's officers', executives' or administrators' directives, bulletins or written instruments in reference to the day to day operating procedures or policy relating to the supervision and operation of the loading dock on which Plaintiff alleges her incident occurred.

#### RESPONSE:

22. Any and all documents which reflect Defendants' policies, procedures, safety rules, regulations, or standing orders regarding the inspection, supervision, and operation of the loading dock in effect on December 19, 2019.

#### **RESPONSE:**

23. The document creation, retention, and destruction policy of Defendants to include, but not limited to photographs, video, statements, incident reports, injury and incident investigations, premises inspections, logs, and the like for the subject premises.

#### RESPONSE:

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#### Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

By: John S. Appelbarm Jr., MO#71766
500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: john@caglellc.com
Attorney for Plaintiff

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 330 of 418 PageID #: 335

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent electronic mail for service upon the Defendant to the attorneys of record indicated below on March 18, 2021:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

John S. Appelbaum Jr. MO#71766

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 331 of 418 PageID #: 336

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWREN	ICE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
vs.		)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCES	SING CORPORATION	)	Division.
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS	, INC.	)	
	Defendants	)	

## PLAINTIFF'S FIRST INTERROGATORIES DIRECTED TO DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, ("Plaintiff") pursuant to Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 57.01, and hereby propounds the following First Interrogatories Directed to Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), to be answered in writing, under oath and according to law.

#### Introduction

These interrogatories and requests for production which are included pursuant to the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure are to be regarded as continuing, and you will be requested to provide, by way of supplementary answers thereto, such additional information or material as you, your counsel, or any other person on your behalf, or subject to your control, may hereinafter obtain which will augment or otherwise modify the answers now given to these interrogatories or requests for production, which has reference to names and addresses of persons having knowledge of discoverable facts, which has reference to the names and addresses of expert witnesses expected to be called to trial, or which corrects these responses to interrogatories or requests for production which were incorrect when made and which are now incorrect because of a change in circumstances.

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Such supplemental responses are to be filed and served upon the Plaintiff(s) within fourteen (14) days after receipt of such information, but not later than three (3) weeks preceding the date of trial.

#### **Definitions**

"Identify," when referring to an individual person, means to state his or her full name, present or last-known address and telephone number, present or last-known position and business affiliation and title of position held and by whom employed at the time of each event, transaction or occurrence hereinafter referred to.

The term "document," as used herein includes, without limitation, drafts, discarded originals, contracts, leases, agreements, memoranda of agreement, letters, inter-company memoranda, correspondence, memorandum reports or written communications, instructions, reports, newspapers or other publications, photographs, videotapes, blueprints, photographic matters, salary productions, however produced or reproduced, microfilm, computer-generated matter, e-mail, transcripts, or any written communication of any kind whatsoever, now or formerly in, under, or subject to the possession, custody or control of your representatives.

"Identify," when referring to a document, shall mean the date and author, type of document, (e.g., letter, memorandum, etc.), or some other means of identifying it. Further a request for the

"description" or "identification" of any document should be understood to include as well a request

for the following information:

- (a) The name and address of each and every person, as defined below, by whom such "document" was received, to whom it was sent or circulated, or by whom it was received;
- (b) The nature and substance of the "document" with sufficient particularity to enable the same to be identified;
- (c) The date of the document and the date the document was executed, (if different from the date it bears);
- (d) Whether you claim any privilege as to such "document," and if so, a precise statement of the facts on which such claim of privilege is based;
- (e) The name and address of each and every person who participated in the drafting or creation of the "document";

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- (f) The present location and the name and address of the present custodian of the "document"; and
- (g) If a "document" was, but no longer is, in your control, the disposition that was made of it, the circumstances surrounding the disposition, the authorization for such disposition, and the date or approximate date thereof.

#### **INTERROGATORIES**

1. Please state the name, address and telephone number of the person or persons participating in the answering of these interrogatories? For each person, list the person's official position or relationship with the party to whom the interrogatories are directed, as well as the number of each interrogatory which the person participated in answering.

#### ANSWER:

3. Please state the name address, telephone number, place of employment and job title of any person who has, claims to have, or whom you believe may have, knowledge or information pertaining to any fact alleged in the pleadings filed in this action, or any fact underlying the subject matter of this action, and specify what information those individuals have that is related to Plaintiff's claims.

#### ANSWER:

4. Please state the specific nature and substance of the knowledge that you believe the person(s) identified in your response to Interrogatory No. 2 may have.

- 5. Please describe any statements concerning the incident made to any employee, contractor, agent, private investigator, insurance company agent or adjuster, or internal investigator employed or contracted by Defendant and/or Defendant's insurance carrier? (Note: Plaintiff is not requesting any attorney client communications). If applicable, please state:
  - (a) The name, address and employer of the person to whom the statement was made:

- (b) The date of each statement;
- (c) Whether the statement was oral or written, and if oral, whether it was recorded;
- (d) The name and address of the custodian(s) of each statement.

#### **ANSWER:**

- 6. Please identify any and all past or present Fairfield employees who would have been on the loading dock as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019. For each such person, state their:
  - (a) Address;
  - (b) Telephone number; and
  - (c) Job description/title and general responsibilities on December 19, 2019.

#### ANSWER:

7. Please identify all investigations, civil lawsuits, audits, reports, or allegations in any form that contend that Fairfield or any of its employees, subsidiaries, or subcontractors failed to exercise due care in the supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition from December 19, 2018 through December 19, 2019.

#### **ANSWER:**

- 8. Do you have any insurance agreements, policies, contracts or any other items, documents or things of any kind whatsoever which will indemnify you and/or may indemnify you, in whole or in part, against any judgment Plaintiff may obtain in this action? If so, please state:
  - (a) The name and address of the organization(s), along with any appropriate citation number(s), who may indemnify you.
  - (b) The total limits of coverage on the date of the occurrence referred to in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages; and
  - (c) Please attach such applicable documents to your answers to these interrogatories.

#### ANSWER:

9. Please identify by name, address, telephone number and field of expertise each retained person you intend to call as an expert witness at trial. For each retained expert, state the expert's

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occupation, place of employment and qualifications to give an opinion, or if such information is available in the expert's curriculum vitae, such curriculum vitae may be attached to this interrogatory answer in response, and state the general nature of the subject matter on which the expert is expected to testify, and the expert's hourly deposition fee.

#### ANSWER:

10. Please identify by name, address, telephone number and field of expertise each non-retained person you expect to call as an expert witness at trial.

#### **ANSWER:**

- 11. Please describe any incident, other than that described in the Petition, where any person reported injuries arising from improper supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, during the two (2) year period prior to the date of this incident and/or during the four (4) months subsequent to this incident? If applicable, as to each report please provide the following information:
  - (a) The date of each such incident;
  - (b) A brief description of each such incident and the injuries involved; and
  - (c) Whether any of the incidents referred to above resulted in a claim and/or lawsuit, and if so, the name of each claimant, date of the filing of each such claim and/or lawsuit, the civil number, if any, and a summary of the disposition of each such claim or lawsuit.

- 12. Please describe any system, routine, rules, policies, procedures, or standing orders of any kind to inspect and supervise the operation of the loading dock, and enforcement of safety protocols on the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition for its subsidiaries or subcontractors, during the time period of October 1, 2019 and December 19, 2019. If applicable, please provide:
  - (a) A general description of such system or routine;
  - (b) The name, address, and particular duties of each person directly involved in such system or routine of inspection and/or maintenance in the general area where this incident occurred as of the date of this incident;

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- (c) Dates each individual was involved; and
- (d) A general description of the training materials or manuals related to the safety protocols relating to the inspection and supervisions of fireworks displays.

#### ANSWER:

13. Please state the name, address, and employer of any individuals with knowledge of how and/or why and/or if the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition occurred.

#### ANSWER:

14. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted statement, reported or otherwise), from the Plaintiff regarding any of the circumstances relating to the incident, events set forth and outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, her injuries, or other damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by her. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

#### ANSWER:

15. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted, reported or otherwise), from any individuals, including your employees, agents and/or servants, or from any entities regarding any of the circumstances relating to the events set forth or outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by them. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

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- 16. State whether there exist photographs, videotapes, or movies with respect to the automobiles or scene of the Incident mentioned in the Petition. If so, state the following:
  - (a) Describe each photograph, video, or movie;
  - (b) State the date each was taken;
  - (c) State the name and address of the person taking each such photo, video, or movie;
  - (d) State the name, address, employer, insurer, and job title of the person presently having control or custody of each photograph, video or movie.

#### **ANSWER:**

17. Please state whether Defendant and/or its employees, agents and/or servants in the regular course of Defendant's business, conducted an investigation into the events giving rise to Plaintiff's claims as set forth in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages and the injuries sustained by Plaintiff. If yes, please indicate the names of individuals that participated the investigation, whether that investigation resulted in any kind of written report and/or any other type of tangible item and the name and address of its custodian.

- 18. Does any Defendant have any policies or procedures that were in place from December 19, 2018 to the present time related to document creation, retention, and destruction of photographs, audio, video, incident reports, statements of victims or witnesses, maintenance records, work orders, job assignments, training materials, policies and procedures, or loading dock inspection records or logs. If so, then state:
  - a) Specifically state the policy.
  - b) State the dates said policy was in effect.
  - c) If you will do so without a formal request for production of documents, please attach a full and complete copy of any printed material explaining said policy to Defendant's employees, agents, contractors, or other

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personnel, or in the alternative, state verbatim the contents of the printed materials.

- d) Identify each individual who was required to patrol or otherwise view the subject premises at the location where Plaintiff fell on or about the date of the incident, including:
  - i. each person's name, home address, and telephone number;
  - ii. each person's business address and telephone number;
  - iii. each person's current employer and job title; and
  - iv. each person's job title and employer on the date of the incident.

#### **ANSWER:**

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbarm Jr., MO#71766 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605 St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738 E-Mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent electronic mail for service upon the Defendant to the attorneys of record indicated below on March 18, 2021:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

John S. Apperbaum Jr. MO#71766

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) ) ) ) ) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
and	(
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

## DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S OBJECTIONS TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation, by and through counsel, and for its Objections to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents, states as follows:

1. Any investigative reports, videos, photos, or other documentary evidence, including security footage, possessed by or on behalf of Fairfield related to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, including copies of any and all photographs, digital images, videotape, motion pictures, movies and/or any other visual depictions of any kind of the condition on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

<u>OBJECTION</u>: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.

2. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting any statements obtained from any witness, person, who claim to have, knowledge regarding the incident at issue as described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages. (Note: If claiming a privilege please provided a privilege log).

<u>OBJECTION</u>: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.

- 4. Any and all documents, reports and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting notice and/or knowledge of any complaints, concerns, claims and/or lawsuits involving the alleged dangerous condition(s) of the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition during the time period between December 19, 2018 and December 19, 2019.
- OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege. Defendant also objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.
- 6. Copies of any and all medical records and reports of any kind whatsoever relating to and/or regarding the Plaintiff.
- <u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is beyond the scope of discovery as provided for by the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure. Defendant also objects to this request for the reason the information is equally available to Plaintiff.
- 7. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever that any expert witness you intend to have testify at trial has reviewed which relates to or in any way concerns the incident at issue as more fully described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, or which relates to or in any way concerns the injuries and damages suffered and sustained by Plaintiff, or concerns the litigation of this cause in any way whatsoever.
- **OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is beyond the scope of discovery as provided for by the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 9. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever which reflect the identity of the employees, agents and/or servants, or contractors of Fairfield on duty at the loading dock alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.
- RESPONSE: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.

- 12. Any and all documents, materials, company manuals, handbooks, handouts, pamphlets, brochures, videos, DVDs, or similar materials reflecting any policies and procedures, standing orders, company issued rules or regulations, directives or notices, safety policies or programs, in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Fairfield in instructing or controlling their employees' agents', and/or contractors', work, activities, job performance, regarding the maintenance and repair of, or removal of snow and ice from, any sidewalks on Premises in effect on December 19, 2019.
- OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.
- 13. Documents reflecting Fairfield's written company policy(les) regarding suppression, destruction or disposal of evidence in connection with anticipated litigation and/or claims in effect during the period of December 19, 2019 to present.
- **OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.
- 14. A copy of any and all safety inspections and/or audits performed on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition during the time period of December 19, 2018 and December 19, 2019.
- OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.
- 15. All e-mails, faxes, messages, internet communication, memos, or similar communication between Fairfield and Fairfield's employees and/or agents concerning the incident alleged in Plaintiffs' Petition. Note: said request does not include any communications with Fairfield's counsel.
- <u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.
- 16. Any documents concerning this Incident provided to any third person by Fairfield immediately following said Incident, excluding those to attorneys.

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<u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.

- 17. A copy of any logs, sign-in sheets, or time cards which reflect the identity of all individual employees, agents, or contractors on the loading dock on December 19, 2019.
- OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief.
- 18. Any investigative reports, videos, photos, or other documentary evidence, including security footage, possessed by or on behalf of Decedent related to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition.
- <u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege.
- 19. Copies of any and all photographs, digital images, videotape, motion pictures, movies and/or any other visual depictions of any kind of the condition of the loading dock, and the incident as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.
- OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege. Defendant also objects to the request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief
- 20. All documents, materials, company manuals, company issued rules and regulations, directives or notices in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Defendants in controlling their employees and/or agents' work, activities, job performance, regarding supervision and operation of the loading dock and any safety precautions associated therewith.
- **OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.
- 21. Any of Defendant's officers', executives' or administrators' directives, bulletins or written instruments in reference to the day to day operating procedures or policy relating to the supervision and operation of the loading dock on which Plaintiff alleges her incident occurred.

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**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

22. Any and all documents which reflect Defendants' policies, procedures, safety rules, regulations, or standing orders regarding the inspection, supervision, and operation of the loading dock in effect on December 19, 2019.

<u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The alleged incident occurred on December 18, 2019 upon information and belief

23. The document creation, retention, and destruction policy of Defendants to include, but not limited to photographs, video, statements, incident reports, injury and incident investigations, premises inspections, logs, and the like for the subject premises.

OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this request for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, and insurer-insured privilege. Defendant also objects to this request for the reason it is overbroad, irrelevant and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
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(314) 421-3400
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Attorneys For Defendant
Fairfield Processing Corporation

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2021, the foregoing was served by Electronic Mail on all attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/John A. Mazzei

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	į
Plaintiff,	<b>\</b>
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) ) ) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	}
Defendants.	}

## <u>DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S OBJECTIONS TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST INTERROGATORIES</u>

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation, by and through counsel, and for its Objections to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories, states as follows:

3. Please state the name address, telephone number, place of employment and job title of any person who has, claims to have, or whom you believe may have, knowledge or information pertaining to any fact alleged in the pleadings filed in this action, or any fact underlying the subject matter of this action, and specify what information those individuals have that is related to Plaintiff's claims.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.

- 4. Please state the specific nature and substance of the knowledge that you believe the person(s) identified in your response to Interrogatory No. 2 may have.
- <u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.
- 5. Please describe any statements concerning the incident made to any employee, contractor, agent, private investigator, insurance company agent or adjuster, or internal

investigator employed or contracted by Defendant and/or Defendant's insurance carrier? (Note: Plaintiff is not requesting any attorney client communications). If applicable, please state:

- (a) The name, address and employer of the person to whom the statement was made;
- (b) The date of each statement;
- (c) Whether the statement was oral or written, and if oral, whether it was recorded;
- (d) The name and address of the custodian(s) of each statement.

<u>OBJECTION:</u> Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.

7. Please identify all investigations, civil lawsuits, audits, reports, or allegations in any form that contend that Fairfield or any of its employees, subsidiaries, or subcontractors failed to exercise due care in the supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition from December 19, 2018 through December 19, 2019.

OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it is overbroad and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

- 11. Please describe any incident, other than that described in the Petition, where any person reported injuries arising from improper supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, during the two (2) year period prior to the date of this incident and/or during the four (4) months subsequent to this incident? If applicable, as to each report please provide the following information:
  - (a) The date of each such incident;
  - (b) A brief description of each such incident and the injuries involved: and
  - (c) Whether any of the incidents referred to above resulted in a claim and/or lawsuit, and if so, the name of each claimant, date of the filling of each such claim and/or lawsuit, the civil number, if any, and a summary of the disposition of each such claim or lawsuit.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it is overbroad and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

12. Please describe any system, routine, rules, policies, procedures, or standing orders of any kind to inspect and supervise the operation of the loading dock, and enforcement of safety protocols on the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition for its subsidiaries or subcontractors, during the time period of October 1, 2019 and December 19, 2019. If applicable, please provide:

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- (a) A general description of such system or routine;
- (b) The name, address, and particular duties of each person directly involved in such system or routine of inspection and/or maintenance in the general area where this incident occurred as of the date of this incident:
- (c) Dates each individual was involved; and
- (d) A general description of the training materials or manuals related to the safety protocols relating to the inspection and supervisions of fireworks displays.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it is overbroad and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

15. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted, reported or otherwise), from any individuals, including your employees, agents and/or servants, or from any entities regarding any of the circumstances relating to the events set forth or outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by them. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.

17. Please state whether Defendant and/or its employees, agents and/or servants in the regular course of Defendant's business, conducted an investigation into the events giving rise to Plaintiff's claims as set forth in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages and the injuries sustained by Plaintiff. If yes, please indicate the names of individuals that participated the investigation, whether that investigation resulted in any kind of written report and/or any other type of tangible item and the name and address of its custodian.

OBJECTION: Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product doctrine and attorney-client privilege.

18. Does any Defendant have any policies or procedures that were in place from December 19, 2018 to the present time related to document creation, retention, and destruction of photographs, audio, video, incident reports, statements of victims or witnesses, maintenance

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records, work orders, job assignments, training materials, policies and procedures, or loading dock inspection records or logs. If so, then state:

- a) Specifically state the policy.
- b) State the dates said policy was in effect.
- c) If you will do so without a formal request for production of documents, please attach a full and complete copy of any printed material explaining said policy to Defendant's employees, agents, contractors, or other personnel, or in the alternative, state verbatim the contents of the printed materials.
- d) Identify each individual who was required to patrol or otherwise view the subject premises at the location where Plaintiff fell on or about the date of the incident, including:
  - i. each person's name, home address, and telephone number;
  - ii. each person's business address and telephone number;
  - iii. each person's current employer and job title; and
  - iv. each person's job title and employer on the date of the incident.

**OBJECTION:** Defendant objects to this interrogatory for the reason it calls for information protected by the work product and attorney-client privilege.

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

<u>/s/John A. Mazzei</u> John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398

imazzei@bjpc.com
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800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant

**Fairfield Processing Corporation** 

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2021, the foregoing was served by Electronic Mail on all attorneys of record. further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/John A. Mazzei

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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	) )
vs.	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) Division 1 ) JURY TRIAL DEMANDE
and	
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

## <u>DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S</u> ANSWERS TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST INTERROGATORIES

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Answers to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories, states as follows:

1. Please state the name, address and telephone number of the person or persons participating in the answering of these interrogatories? For each person, list the person's official position or relationship with the party to whom the interrogatories are directed, as well as the number of each interrogatory which the person participated in answering.

ANSWER: Hector Geist (Director of Operations), Fairfield Processing Corporation (with the assistance of counsel), 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63147. Fairfield employees may be contacted through defense counsel.

3. Please state the name address, telephone number, place of employment and job title of any person who has, claims to have, or whom you believe may have, knowledge or information pertaining to any fact alleged in the pleadings filed in this action, or any fact underlying the subject matter of this action, and specify what information those individuals have that is related to Plaintiff's claims.

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ANSWER: Hector Geist (Director of Operations), Fairfield Processing Corporation; Ryan Cannon, (Distribution Supervisor), Fairfield Processing Corporation, 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63147. Fairfield employees may be contacted through defense counsel.

4. Please state the specific nature and substance of the knowledge that you believe the person(s) identified in your response to Interrogatory No. 2 may have.

#### ANSWER: Plaintiff did not submit Interrogatory No. 2.

- 5. Please describe any statements concerning the incident made to any employee, contractor, agent, private investigator, insurance company agent or adjuster, or internal investigator employed or contracted by Defendant and/or Defendant's insurance carrier? (Note: Plaintiff is not requesting any attorney client communications). If applicable, please state:
  - (a) The name, address and employer of the person to whom the statement was made;
  - (b) The date of each statement;
  - (c) Whether the statement was oral or written, and if oral, whether it was recorded;
  - (d) The name and address of the custodian(s) of each statement.

# ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

- 6. Please identify any and all past or present Fairfield employees who would have been on the loading dock as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019. For each such person, state their:
  - (a) Address;
  - (b) Telephone number; and
  - (c) Job description/title and general responsibilities on December 19, 2019.
- ANSWER: Hector Geist (Director of Operations), Fairfield Processing Corporation; Ryan Cannon (Distribution Supervisor), Fairfield Processing Corporation, 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63147. The alleged incident allegedly occurred on December 18, 2019 according to the written statement of Plaintiff. See employees who may have been at or near the loading dock on December 18, 2019, identified in Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production. Fairfield employees may be contacted through defense counsel.

- 7. Please identify all investigations, civil lawsuits, audits, reports, or allegations in any form that contend that Fairfield or any of its employees, subsidiaries, or subcontractors failed to exercise due care in the supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition from December 19, 2018 through December 19, 2019.
- ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, Defendant denies it failed to exercise due care in the supervision and operating of the loading dock on December 18, 2019. The alleged incident allegedly occurred on December 18, 2019 according to the written statement of Plaintiff. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.
- 8. Do you have any insurance agreements, policies, contracts or any other items, documents or things of any kind whatsoever which will indemnify you and/or may indemnify you, in whole or in part, against any judgment Plaintiff may obtain in this action? If so, please state:
  - (a) The name and address of the organization(s), along with any appropriate citation number(s), who may indemnify you.
  - (b) The total limits of coverage on the date of the occurrence referred to in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages; and
  - (c) Please attach such applicable documents to your answers to these interrogatories.

## ANSWER: See Certificate of Liability produced in Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

- 9. Please identify by name, address, telephone number and field of expertise each retained person you intend to call as an expert witness at trial. For each retained expert, state the expert's occupation, place of employment and qualifications to give an opinion, or if such information is available in the expert's curriculum vitae, such curriculum vitae may be attached to this interrogatory answer in response, and state the general nature of the subject matter on which the expert is expected to testify, and the expert's hourly deposition fee.
- ANSWER: Defendant states that it will participate in expert witness discovery in the manner provided for by the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, and, at that time, in the sequence directed by this Court in its Case Management Order. Defendant reserves the right to elicit expert and/or fact witness testimony from

Plaintiff's treating physicians. Defendant also reserves the right to elicit expert and/or fact witness testimony from any expert witness identified by Plaintiff or any other party. Defendant reserves the right to request an IME. Defendant further reserves the right to have the examining physician testify as to the examination and/or review. Defendant reserves the right to call the examining physician at trial.

- 10. Please identify by name, address, telephone number and field of expertise each non-retained person you expect to call as an expert witness at trial.
- ANSWER: Defendant states that it will participate in expert witness discovery in the manner provided for by the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, and, at that time, in the sequence directed by this Court in its Case Management Order. Defendant reserves the right to elicit expert and/or fact witness testimony from Plaintiff's treating physicians. Defendant also reserves the right to elicit expert and/or fact witness testimony from any expert witness identified by Plaintiff or any other party.
- 11. Please describe any incident, other than that described in the Petition, where any person reported injuries arising from improper supervision and operation of the loading dock on Premises as alleged in Plaintiff's Petition, during the two (2) year period prior to the date of this incident and/or during the four (4) months subsequent to this incident? If applicable, as to each report please provide the following information:
  - (a) The date of each such incident;
  - (b) A brief description of each such incident and the injuries involved; and
  - (c) Whether any of the incidents referred to above resulted in a claim and/or lawsuit, and if so, the name of each claimant, date of the filing of each such claim and/or lawsuit, the civil number, if any, and a summary of the disposition of each such claim or lawsuit.

#### ANSWER: See previously filed Objection.

- 12. Please describe any system, routine, rules, policies, procedures, or standing orders of any kind to inspect and supervise the operation of the loading dock, and enforcement of safety protocols on the premises alleged in Plaintiff's Petition for its subsidiaries or subcontractors, during the time period of October 1, 2019 and December 19, 2019. If applicable, please provide:
  - (a) A general description of such system or routine;

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- (b) The name, address, and particular duties of each person directly involved in such system or routine of inspection and/or maintenance in the general area where this incident occurred as of the date of this incident;
- (c) Dates each individual was involved; and
- (d) A general description of the training materials or manuals related to the safety protocols relating to the inspection and supervisions of fireworks displays.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see Chocking Procedures produced in Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

13. Please state the name, address, and employer of any individuals with knowledge of how and/or why and/or if the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition occurred.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, Fairfield employees Hector Geist and Ryan Cannon were present at the premises on the day of the alleged incident.

14. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted statement, reported or otherwise), from the Plaintiff regarding any of the circumstances relating to the incident, events set forth and outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, her injuries, or other damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by her. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

15. Have you or anybody on your behalf received any statement, (written, recorded, taped, videotaped, audio, adopted, reported or otherwise), from any individuals, including your employees, agents and/or servants, or from any entities regarding any of the circumstances relating to the events set forth or outlined in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages? If so, please attach a copy of said statement(s) to your answers. By statement(s), Plaintiff specifically intends to include all

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documents, correspondence, letters, written memorandum, video, audio, or any other tangibles memorializing statements by them. If no such copy exists, state the entirety of each statement.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

- 16. State whether there exist photographs, videotapes, or movies with respect to the automobiles or scene of the Incident mentioned in the Petition. If so, state the following:
  - (a) Describe each photograph, video, or movie;
  - (b) State the date each was taken;
  - (c) State the name and address of the person taking each such photo, video, or movie;
  - (d) State the name, address, employer, insurer, and job title of the person presently having control or custody of each photograph, video or movie.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see video surveillance footage produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

17. Please state whether Defendant and/or its employees, agents and/or servants in the regular course of Defendant's business, conducted an investigation into the events giving rise to Plaintiff's claims as set forth in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages and the injuries sustained by Plaintiff. If yes, please indicate the names of individuals that participated the investigation, whether that investigation resulted in any kind of written report and/or any other type of tangible item and the name and address of its custodian.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see written statement of Plaintiff produced in Response and First Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

18. Does any Defendant have any policies or procedures that were in place from December 19, 2018 to the present time related to document creation, retention, and destruction of photographs, audio, video, incident reports, statements of victims or witnesses, maintenance

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records, work orders, job assignments, training materials, policies and procedures, or loading dock inspection records or logs. If so, then state:

- a) Specifically state the policy.
- b) State the dates said policy was in effect.
- c) If you will do so without a formal request for production of documents, please attach a full and complete copy of any printed material explaining said policy to Defendant's employees, agents, contractors, or other personnel, or in the alternative, state verbatim the contents of the printed materials.
- d) Identify each individual who was required to patrol or otherwise view the subject premises at the location where Plaintiff fell on or about the date of the incident, including:
  - i. each person's name, home address, and telephone number;
  - ii. each person's business address and telephone number;
  - iii. each person's current employer and job title; and
  - iv. each person's job title and employer on the date of the incident.

ANSWER: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see Chocking Procedures produced in Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production.

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STATE OF MISSOUR! )

SS

CITY OF ST. LDUIS )

Comes Now HECTOR GEIST, and states that the above Answers to Interrogatories are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Hector Geist, Fairfield Processing Corporation

Subscribed and sworn to before me this  $2^{5T}$  day of <u>October</u>, 2021.

Sua M. Heur Notary Public TINA M. HEUES

My Commission Ex

TINAM HEUER
My Commission Expires
May 24, 2024
St. Louis County
Commission #12468494

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#### **BROWN & JAMES, P.C.**

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys for Defendant
Fairfield Processing Corporation

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021, the foregoing was served electronically to john@caglellc.com. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/llw 25741901.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 360 of 418 PageID #: 365

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	
vs.	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) Division 1 )
and	ý
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

# DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Second Supplemental Response to Plaintiff's First Request for Production of Documents, states as follows:

2. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever reflecting any statements obtained from any witness, person, who claim to have, knowledge regarding the incident at issue as described in Plaintiff's Petition for Damages. (Note: If claiming a privilege please provided a privilege log).

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached e-mails.

9. Any and all documents and/or writings of any kind whatsoever which reflect the identity of the employees, agents and/or servants, or contractors of Fairfield on duty at the loading dock alleged in Plaintiff's Petition on December 19, 2019.

Electronically Filed - City of St. Louis - May 13, 2022 - 12:40 PM

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<u>RESPONSE</u>: The alleged incident allegedly occurred on December 18, 2019 according to the written statement of Plaintiff. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Detailed Hours Overview and Employee Timesheet.

10. Please identify the names, addresses, employer, and job title of any individuals which communicated with the Plaintiff subsequent to the incident alleged in Plaintiff's Petition.

**RESPONSE**: See attached emails.

15. All e-mails, faxes, messages, internet communication, memos, or similar communication between Fairfield and Fairfield's employees and/or agents concerning the incident alleged in Plaintiffs' Petition. Note: said request does not include any communications with Fairfield's counsel.

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached emails.

16. Any documents concerning this Incident provided to any third person by Fairfield immediately following said Incident, excluding those to attorneys.

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached emails.

17. A copy of any logs, sign-in sheets, or time cards which reflect the identity of all individual employees, agents, or contractors on the loading dock on December 19, 2019.

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Detailed Hours Overview and Employee Timesheet.

20. All documents, materials, company manuals, company issued rules and regulations, directives or notices in effect at the time the Incident occurred utilized by Defendants in controlling their employees and/or agents' work, activities, job performance, regarding supervision and operation of the loading dock and any safety precautions associated therewith.

<u>RESPONSE</u>: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Chocking Procedures.

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21. Any of Defendant's officers', executives' or administrators' directives, bulletins or written instruments in reference to the day to day operating procedures or policy relating to the supervision and operation of the loading dock on which Plaintiff alleges her incident occurred.

RESPONSE: See previously filed Objection. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Chocking Procedures.

22. Any and all documents which reflect Defendants' policies, procedures, safety rules, regulations, or standing orders regarding the inspection, supervision, and operation of the loading dock in effect on December 19, 2019.

RESPONSE: See previously filed Objection. The alleged incident allegedly occurred on December 18, 2019 according to the written statement of Plaintiff. Subject to and without waiving, see attached Chocking Procedures.

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys for Defendant
Fairfield Processing Corporation

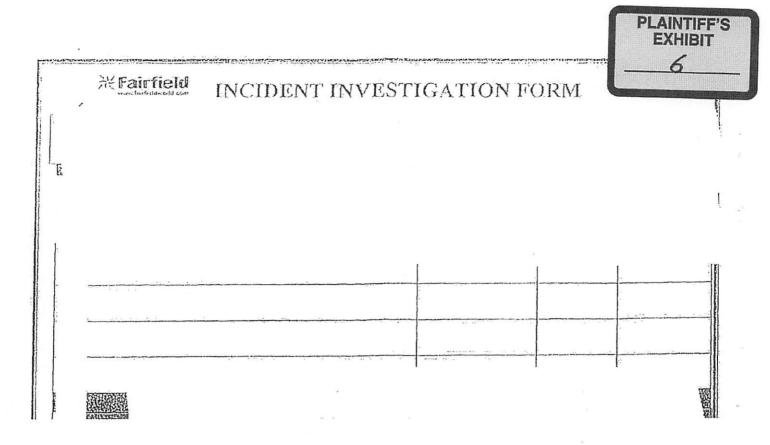
Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 363 of 418 PageID #: 368

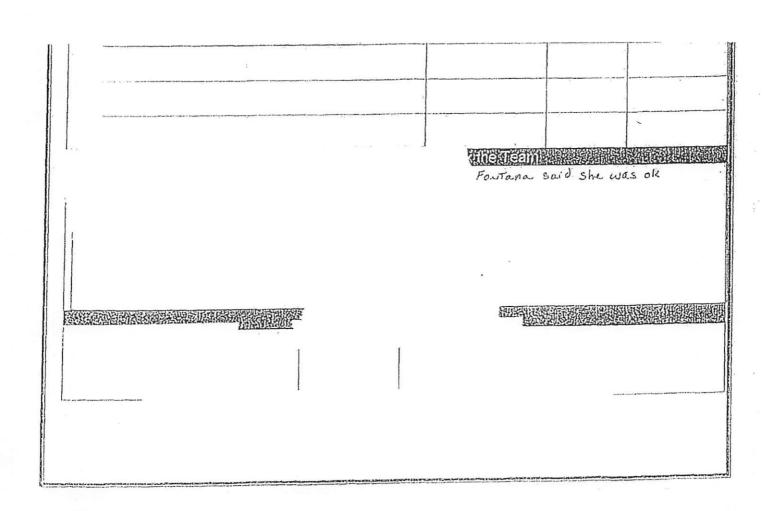
# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, the foregoing was served electronically to <u>john@caglellc.com</u>. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM 26355483.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 364 of 418 PageID #: 369





Electronically Filed - City of St. Louis - May 13, 2022 - 12:40 PM

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#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)	
Plaintiff	) ;, )	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
vs.	)	Division:
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPO	RATION )	Division.
And	)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.	)	
Defenda	ints.	

# PLAINTIFF'S FIRST INTERROGATORIES DIRECTED TO DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence, ("Plaintiff") pursuant to Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 57.01, and hereby propounds the following First Interrogatories Directed to Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), to be answered in writing, under oath and according to law.

#### **INTERROGATORIES**

Is there a bill of lading or any other document describing in detail, the identity of the carrier who owned/operated the truck/tractor/trailer at the time of the accident? If so, please list the custodian of each such document, the title of each, the preparer and employer of each and attach a copy of said document to your responses hereto.

ANSWER:

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO#71766 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: john@caglellc.com

Attorney for Plaintiff



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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent electronic mail for service upon the Defendant to the attorneys of record indicated below on March 18, 2021:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

John S. Appelbaum Jr. MO#71766

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# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,		)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	C. 2 8 8
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING	CORPORATION	)	Division:
And		)	
VENTURE EXPRESS, LLC.		)	
	Defendants.	)	

# PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL DEFENDANT'S ANSWERS TO DISCOVERY AND MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT THEREOF

COMES NOW, Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff"), by and through his attorneys The Cagle
Law Firm, L.L.C. and for her Motion to Compel and Memorandum in Support of said Motion to
Compel Defendant Brook Fairfield Processing Corp. ("Fairfield")'s Answers to Discovery
pursuant to Missouri Supreme Court Rule 61, the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, and states
as follows to the Court:

#### INTRODUCTION

The instant case arises out of serious personal injuries sustained by Plaintiff resulting from a incident, on or about December 18-19, 2019, on the property of Fairfield. *See Plaintiff's Petition*. At said date and time, Plaintiff worked as a temporary employee retained to work on a loading bay on Fairfield's premises. *See Plaintiff's Petition*. As Plaintiff straddled the gap between a tractor-trailer to the loading bay in an attempt to remove a ramp connecting the two, the operator of said tractor-trailer, while distracted, unexpectedly pulled away. *Id*. The driver's actions forced Plaintiff to leap onto the bay, injuring her knee. *Id*.



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Despite numerous attempts, including several informal and formal requests to Fairfield (See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 1, E-mail Communication Between Counsel; See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 2, Plaintiff's Supplemental Interrogatory), Plaintiff has been unable to determine the identity of the truck driver in question, or the motor carrier who employed him.

Plaintiff served Fairfield with her First Interrogatories and Requests for Production on March 18, 2021. See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 3, First Propounded Discovery to Fairfield. Fairfield served Plaintiff with its objections to such discovery on April 6, 2021. See Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 4, Fairfield's Objections to Plaintiff's Discovery. The majority of these objections hold no basis under Missouri law. Id. After serving Fairfield's counsel with an attempt to resolve, on June 6, 2021, Fairfield provided only seven documents, including an incident report, a mere twelve words of which are not redacted, and a surveillance video depicting neither the incident in question or Plaintiff in any way. Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 5, Fairfield's Supplemental Objections and Responses to Plaintiff's Discovery; Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 6, Fairfield's Redacted Incident Report. Moreover, Fairfield has ignored Plaintiff's Supplemental Interrogatory No. 19, requesting the bill of lading which stands to establish the identity of the truck driver in question and his employer. Despite representing that further documentation and supplemental responses were forthcoming, Plaintiff has received no correspondence on this case in some sixty (60) days.

As such, Plaintiff would request this Court overrule Fairfield's improper objections and compel appropriate responses and production pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules.

#### RULE

Under the explicit provisions of the Missouri Supreme Court Rules, "parties may obtain discovery regarding any matter, not privileged, that is relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending action, whether it relates to the claim or defense of the party seeking discovery or to

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the claim or defense of any other party, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition and location of any books, documents or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter." Mo. Sup. Ct. R. 56.01.

The Missouri rules of discovery allow parties to obtain information regarding any matter "relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending action" provided the matter is not privileged. Rule 56.01(b)(1); See also State ex. rel. Laurie Dean v. The Honorable Jon A. Cunningham, 182 S.W.3d 561 (Mo. 2006). Discovery serves to aid litigants in determining the facts and ascertaining all of the evidence with which to "develop their respective contentions and to present their respective sides of the issues framed by the pleadings." State ex rel Martel v. Gallagher, 797 S.W.2d 730, 731 (Mo. App. 1990). Missouri law grants discovery requests a broad scope or "a tendency towards liberality in discovery." State ex rel. Solfa v. Ely, 875 S.W.2d 5790, 581 (Mo. App. 1994). Evidence need only be reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence to become discoverable. In re Marriage of Hershewe, 931 S.W.2d 198, 201 (Mo. App. 1996). This includes not only evidence as to plaintiff's claims, but also evidence and documents regarding the defenses of one's adversary. Clark v. Faith Hospital Association, 472 S.W.2d 375 (Mo. 1971). "[I]f this right of discovery is to have practical value, the party invoking it should not be held to too strict a showing as to the contents of records that [s]he has never seen." State ex rel Iron Fireman Corp. v. Ward, 173 S.W.2d 920, 923 (Mo. banc 1943). When applying these rules, a "trial court's discretion to deny discovery is commensurately more limited." State ex rel Martel v. Gallagher at 731.

## **ARGUMENT**

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# I. <u>Defendants Improperly Attempt to Shield Information Explicitly Contemplated by</u> the Rules from Discovery.

Defendants attempts to bar discovery of information specifically permitted under Rule 56.01.

As stated above the Rules of the Missouri Supreme Court permit the discovery regarding:

[A]ny matter, not privileged, that is relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending action, whether it relates to the claim or defense of the party seeking discovery or to the claim or defense of any other party, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition and location of any books, documents or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter.

Moreover, Missouri Supreme Court Rule 57.01(a) provides that:

[A]ny party may serve upon any other party written interrogatories. Interrogatories may relate to any matter that can be inquired into under Rule 56.01. An interrogatory otherwise proper is not necessarily objectionable merely because an answer to the interrogatory involves an opinion or contention that relates to fact or the application of law to fact, but the court may order that such an interrogatory need not be answered until after designated discovery has been completed or until a pretrial conference or other later time.

Interrogatories Nos. 3-4, and Requests for Production 9 speak to claims Plaintiff has made against Fairfield and seek information related to the identity of potential witnesses and the substance of the knowledge they might have. See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5. As such, the information requested therein is explicitly discoverable under Rule 56.01.

Furthermore, Plaintiff's Interrogatory No. 19, requests a bill of lading evidencing the identity of the carrier responsible for Plaintiff's injury. Such information is clearly contemplated by Rule 56.01, which renders discoverable the identity and location of persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter. Nevertheless, Defendant has failed to even provide a response to said request, leaving Plaintiff unable to prosecute her case.

Finally, Fairfield's objection to Interrogatory 16 and Request for Production Nos. 1 and 18-19, seeking any photographs, videotapes, or movies depicting the scene of the incident in Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 372 of 418 PageID #: 377

Fairfield's possession, falls flat under Missouri Supreme Court precedent. The Supreme Court in *State ex rel. McConaha v. Allen*, 979 S.W.2d 188, 189–90 (Mo. 1998) found that "[u]nder Rule 56.01(b)(3)(b) and this Court's decision in *Koehr*. . . surveillance videotape [are] statement[s] . . . discoverable without a showing of undue hardship. *Id*. As such, Plaintiff is categorically entitled to any evidence obtained via surveillance on behalf of Fairfield.

Nevertheless, Fairfield has objected on the basis of work product privilege and produced subject to said objection, one surveillance video containing neither the scene of the incident nor Plaintiff.

# III. <u>Defendants Have Failed To Provide Sufficient Evidence To Bar Discovery Via The Work Product Doctrine or Any Other Privilege.</u>

#### A. <u>Defendants' Unsupported Claims of Privilege Are Improper Under Missouri Law.</u>

Moreover, in response to Interrogatories Nos. 5, 15, 17, and 18 and Requests for Production Nos. 1, 2, 15, 16, 18, and 19 to Fairfield, it raises the potential of work product, insured-insurer, or attorney-client privilege. See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5. However, such assertions are insufficient under Missouri law.

Claims of privilege or protection are considered impediments to discovery of the truth, deserving of careful scrutiny. See State ex rel. Health Midwest Develop. Group, Inc. v. Daugherty, 965 S.W.2d 841 (Mo. Banc 1998). Therefore, Defendant bears the burden of proving the applicability of any alleged exception to discovery. State ex re. State Board of Pharmacy v. Otto, 866 S.W.2d 480, 483 (Mo. App. W.D. 1993); State ex rel. Dixon v. Darnold, 939 S.W.2d 66, 70 (Mo. App. S.D. 1997). This burden includes a requirement that Defendants state with particularity the grounds for the objection and provide sufficiently specific facts to allow the Court to determine whether they have satisfied each and every element of the claimed privilege for every document or item they seek to withhold. State ex rel. Dixon v. Darnold, 939 S.W.2d

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66, 70 (Mo. App. S.D. 1997); Mo. R. Civ. Pro. 55.26 (a). Failure to prove any element of the claimed protection causes the entire claim to fail. *Id*.

A blanket assertion of protection is insufficient as a matter of law. *Id.*; *State ex rel. Freidman* v. *Provaznik*, 668 S.W.2d 76 (Mo. banc. 1984). Moreover, Missouri Courts have rejected claims of attorney-client privilege that were "generic," "non-specific," "hypothetical," "blanket assertions," or where such claims applied to matters "potentially privileged," or which "may require ... disclosure" of privileged communications. *Id.* at 117-18 (emphasis added).

As such, Fairfield's assertions of several potential privileges, without any supporting evidence, fall well short of their burden of proof. Fairfield fails to explain with particularity why the proffered discovery stands to expose privileged or confidential information. See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5. Put another way, Fairfield, attempts to usurp the authority of the Court, and unilaterally determine that privilege applies, that no exceptions to said privileges apply, and that they therefore need not produce whichever documents or information they so choose. Therefore, Plaintiff requests this Court to compel Fairfield's production of the requested information and documents.

B. <u>Defendants' Objections Fail to Properly Assert Work Product Privilege or Address the Potential Exception to It's Applicability.</u>

Moreover, Fairfield improperly asserts the protection of work product doctrine to bar large swaths of Plaintiff's propounded discovery. *See Exhibit 2; Exhibit 3; Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5.* Interrogatories No. 5, 15, and 17 and Requests for Production Nos. 1, 2, 15, 16, 18, and 19 request information related to any incident report or investigation conducted related to the December 18, 2019 incident, copies of said reports, and any photographs or statements related thereto. *Id.* 

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Again, under Missouri Law, blanket assertions of privilege do not properly establish protection under work product doctrine. Instead, to assert this privilege, a party must "establish, via competent evidence, that the materials sought to be protected (1) are documents or tangible things, (2) were prepared in anticipation of litigation or trial, and (3) were prepared by or for a party or a representative of that party." *State ex rel. Ford Motor Co. v. Westbrooke*, 151 S.W3.d 364, 367 (Mo. banc 2004). Because any information related to these discovery requests would likely have preceded anticipation of litigation Fairfield may not properly assert work product protection.

Moreover, Plaintiff may discover statements, photographs, or other evidence obtained by the insurance company relating to the alleged incident not prepared in anticipation of litigation, but rather, in the ordinary course of business. *Ratcliff v. Sprint Missouri, Inc.*, 261 S.W.3d 534, 548 (Mo. Ct. App. W.D. 2008). As such, evidence prepared or collected in the ordinary course of business, and not as communications between the insurer and the insured, is not privileged. *Id.* Furthermore, as stated supra, any surveillance videos or photographs depicting Plaintiff are statements, discoverable without a showing of undue hardship. *Supra*.

As such, under Missouri Law, to assert work product protection, Fairfield must provide some competent evidence providing Plaintiff and the Court with some guidance as to whether such protection applies; these blanket assertions provide no such evidence. As such, Fairfield can not refute the possibility that the ordinary course of business exception to the insured insurer privilege, attorney-client privilege, or work product protection applies in this case. Fairfield has thus failed to carry their burden of proof and can not bar the propounded discovery via its unsupported assertions.

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Therefore, Plaintiff requests this Court overrule said objections and compel Fairfield to provide appropriate responses to Plaintiff's requests.

# III. Evidence That Fairfield or Its Agents, Employees, or Contractors Had Notice of The Dangerous Condition Is Admissible.

Fairfield makes further objections to Interrogatories Nos. 7, and 11, and Requests for Production Nos. 4, and 14, asserting that these requests exceed the scope of the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, are over broad, unduly burdensome, not appropriately limited, irrelevant, and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. *See Exhibit 4; Exhibit* 5. Once again, when tested against Missouri Law, Fairfield's argument falls flat. The above listed Interrogatories and Requests for Production seek information related to prior incidents of accidents occurring under similar circumstances to that which cause Plaintiff's injury. *Exhibit 3*.

While "evidence of similar acts of negligence generally is not admissible to demonstrate that a party acted negligently at a subsequent incident", (Lohmann v. Norfolk & Western Railway Company, 948 S.W.2d 659, 671 (Mo.App. W.D.1997)), a defendant's knowledge of prior accidents, or information standing to show that defendant should have, using ordinary care, known of a dangerous condition is far from a novel concept in Missouri common law. State ex rel. Stolfa v. Ely, 875 S.W.2d 579, 581 (Mo. Ct. App. 1994). Furthermore, under Missouri Law, the question of whether a company has procedures or policies, but does not enforce them, that is unquestionably relevant. See Ybarra v. Burlington Northern Inc., 689 F.2d 147, 150 (8th Cir. 1982). The same is true for violation of company standards, industry standards, or regulations and statutes. Reed v. Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Co., 239 S.W.2d 328 (Mo. 1951); First National Bank of Fort Smith v. Kansas City Southern Railway Co., 865 S.W.2d 719 (Mo. App. W.D. 1993).

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Therefore, Plaintiff's discovery requests relating directly to prior incidents relate directly to Fairfield's knowledge of the dangerous condition.

As such, once again, despite Fairfield's attempt to assume the role of finder of law, there remain circumstances where the information requested is, not only discoverable, but specifically admissible. Therefore, Plaintiff would request this Court overrule said objections, and compel proper responses.

# IV. Evidence Of Fairfield's Policies And Procedures Tend To Prove The Elements Of Its Negligence and Are Therefore Discoverable.

Defendant Investment further objects to Plaintiff's Interrogatories Nos. 12 and 18, and Requests for Production Nos. 12, 13, 20, 21, 22, and 23 seeking Fairfield's policies and procedures regarding the training it provided, or regulations or policies it adopted, stating that such requests are overbroad, vague, and ambiguous. *See Exhibit 4; Exhibit 5.* 

Missouri recognizes not only the theory of vicarious liability of a corporation for the negligence of its employees, but also for its own. *Spence v. BNSF Railway Co.*, 2018 WL 3185473 (Mo. 2018).

Such evidence may tend to prove Fairfield's own negligence. Under Missouri Law, the question of whether a company has procedures or policies, but does not enforce them, that is unquestionably relevant. *See Ybarra v. Burlington Northern Inc.*, 689 F.2d 147, 150 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1982). The same is true for violation of company standards, industry standards, or regulations and statutes. *Reed v. Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Co.*, 239 S.W.2d 328 (Mo. 1951); *First National Bank of Fort Smith v. Kansas City Southern Railway Co.*, 865 S.W.2d 719 (Mo. App. W.D. 1993) (finding evidence that a company adopted rules or standards but failed to follow them in conscious (or flagrant) disregard for the public, presented a jury question as to punitive

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damages). As such, evidence that Fairfield adopted certain policies and procedures, but failed to implement or enforce them is not only discoverable, but admissible to the jury.

As such, Plaintiff requests this Court overrule Fairfield's objections and compel their production of the relevant policies and procedures, and associated training manuals.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Plaintiff served specific and directed discovery to Defendant based upon the elements of her asserted claims. This discovery sought material clearly relevant to each of these claims. Such documents would not only likely lead to the discovery of admissible evidence, but may in fact be admissible evidence. In response, Defendants have filed multiple blanket, general objections, with no foundation in Missouri law. As such, Plaintiff would ask the Court to enter its Order requiring full and complete answers to each of the Interrogatories and Requests identified above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for this Court to overrule Defendants Ledbetter's and SWBT's Objections to Interrogatories and Request for Production of Documents, Order Defendants to answer and make all disclosures called for in Plaintiff's discovery within twenty (20) days without further objection and for any such other and further relief as this Court deems appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102 Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: <u>zane@caglellc.com</u> E-Mail: <u>john@caglellc.com</u>

Attorney for Plaintiff

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was sent via electronic mail and through this Court's Electronic Filing Service for service upon Counsel for Defendant at the address listed below on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021:

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

John A. Mazzei, jmazzei@bjpc.com dbuchanan@bjpc.com 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, Missouri, 63101 (314) 421-3400 (314) 421-3128 (fax) Attorneys For Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation

John S. Appelbaum Jr., MO #71766

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www.AllInjuryAttorney.com

December 30, 2019

### Sent Via Certified Mail Return Receipt

Fairfield Processing Corporation

Attn: Ryan Cannon and/or Management

6432 Prescott Ave. St. Louis, MO 63147

RE:

Our Client:

Fontania Lawrence

Date of Collision:

December 19, 2019 at approximately 1 p.m. (CST)

To All It May Concern:

I am writing to advise that my law firm represents Fontania Lawrence (hereinafter "Ms. Lawrence") as a result of personal injuries she suffered during a motor vehicle incident, which occurred on December 19, 2019, involving a commercial vehicle transporting goods from your office in St. Louis, Missouri.

This letter is to formally demand the preservation of evidence related to this incident. If you fail to properly secure and preserve evidence, it will give rise to the legal presumption that the evidence would have been harmful to your side of the case. If you fail to preserve and maintain evidence, we will seek all available sanctions under the law. The destruction, alteration, or loss of any of the below constitutes a spoliation of evidence under the law.

We specifically request that the following evidence be maintained and preserved and not be destroyed, modified, altered, repaired, or changed in any manner. WE FURTHER REQUEST THAT YOU IMMEDIATELY PRINT AND SAVE ON PAPER ANY OF THE ELECTRONIC RECORDS REQUESTED BELOW, IN ADDITION TO PRESERVING THE ELECTRONIC RECORDS AS SET FORTH BELOW. The items you are required to save include:

- 1. Any incident reports related to the December 19, 2019 incident.
- 2. Any photographs or videos taken of the incident, and any video taken up to five (5) hours before and after the incident.
- 3. Any incidents reports related to similar incidents from six (6) months prior to the December 19, 2019 incident.
- 4. Photographs of the interior and exterior of vehicles involved in this accident or the accident scene.
- 5. Any applicable driver's post-accident alcohol and drug testing results.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

- 6. Any lease contracts or agreements covering the applicable driver or the truck involved in the accident.
- 7. Any witness statements given related to the December 19, 2019 incident.
- 8. Any data or printout from on-board recording devices, including, but not limited to, the ECM (electronic control module), any on-board computer tachograph, trip monitor, trip recorder, trip master or other recording device for the day of the accident and the six- (6) month period preceding the accident.
- 9. Any e-mails, electronic messages, letters, memos, or other documents concerning this accident.
- 10. Any manuals, guidelines, rules, regulations, policies, and procedures given to Fairfield's drivers.
- 11. Any reports, memos, notes, logs, or other documents evidencing complaints about Fairfield.
- 12. Any other items associated in any way with the wreck, documents, database, or other pieces of evidence concerning or reflecting upon the driver, the collision, the scene of the collision, or the vehicle.
- 13. All crash reports whether done by Fairfield, a government entity, or any other employees or agents of Fairfield concerning the December 19, 2019 crash.

If business practices of either your or your employees, agents, contractors, carriers, bailees, or other non-parties who possess materials reasonably anticipated to be subject to discovery in this matter involve the routine destruction, recycling, relocation, or mutation of such materials, you should, to the extent possible for the pendency of this matter, either halt such business processes; sequester or remove such material from the business process; or arrange for the preservation of original documents, data, and tangible things, including electronic data and systems, as set out below.

Failure to preserve and retain the electronic data identified in this notice may constitute spoliation of evidence and could result in claims for damages, as well as evidentiary and monetary sanctions. Please be advised that simply continuing to use the computer system may destroy personal evidence critical to this matter. Consequently, you are instructed to preserve any media containing the above described data before further use. Pending further discovery concerning your client's computer system or any further agreement of the parties as to the preservation and production of electronic evidence, respondent should take the following steps to preserve the electronic evidence.

All tapes, disks, electronic storage devices or other media used to back up the electronic data of any device used to manage, manipulate or store data in the above-referenced matter and meeting the above-described parameters should be disconnected from power and a network

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connection, removed from rotation or further use and preserved as evidence in a secured area. All online storage devices such as hard drives for computer systems used to manage, manipulate or store data in the above-referenced matter and meeting the above-described parameters should be removed from operation and preserved as evidence. All offline storage devices such as floppy disks, CD-ROMs, etc., for computer systems used to manage, manipulate or store data in the above-referenced matter and meeting the above-described parameters should be removed from operation and preserved as evidence in a secured area.

In order to minimize disruption to continuing business operations, those in possession of the data and computer systems in question should consider using tools like Norton Ghost to make working duplicates of the original computer disk drives. The new duplicates can then be swapped with the original disks so that continuing operations can resume. The originals should then be removed and preserved as evidence. It is recommended that the Information Technology professional conducting the duplication be familiar with and test the product prior to duplication. If the computer system was powered off prior to making the duplication, a bootable version of the duplication tool should be used so that important data such as time and date stamps, swap files, etc., are not altered by the duplication process when the system is restarted. Forensic grade images of the drives can be made at a later time, since creation of forensic grade images will take considerably longer than creating the working duplicates.

In order to assure that your obligation to preserve documents is met, please immediately forward a copy of this letter to all persons and entities with custodial responsibility for the items referred to in this letter.

In regard to the truck/tractor and trailer involved in this collision, we would like to set up a mutually convenient time for our expert to inspect, examine, and conduct tests on the unit. We specifically request that you make no repairs or adjustments to the tractor or trailer until this inspection is completed. Please contact us to discuss the scheduling of an inspection. We require you to put any vendor which hosts or stores any of the above data for you on notice of the need to preserve this data.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. Thank you for your kind attention.

Very Truly Yours,

John S. Appelbaum Jr.

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# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
VS.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	)
VENTURE EXPRESS, INC.,	)
Defendants.	)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation served its Answers to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories #19, via Electronic Mail to: <a href="mailto:Zane@caglellc.com">Zane@caglellc.com</a>, Zane Cagle, The Cagle Law Firm, 500 North Broadway, Suite 1605, St. Louis, MO 63102 on this 21st day of June, 2022.

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.

/s/ John A. Mazzei
John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
(314) 421-3400
(314) 421-3128 (fax)
Attorneys For Defendant,
Fairfield Processing Corporation

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 21st day of June, 2022, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM/IIw 27773091.1

JAM/IIw 25650607.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 384 of 418 PageID #: 389

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE	Ξ,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	
FAIRFIELD PROCESSIN et al.	IG CORPORATION,	)	
	Defendants.	)	

# NOTICE OF CANCELATION HEARING

COMES NOW Plaintiff by and through her attorneys of record and hereby cancels the hearing for Plaintiff's Motion to Compel from Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation in the Circuit Court of St. Louis City before the judge hearing on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

# Respectfully Submitted,

# THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

BY: /s/ Zane T. Cagle
Zane T. Cagle; MO#53775
500 North Broadway, Suite 1605
St. Louis, MO 63102
Phone: (314) 241-1700
Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: <u>zane@caglellc.com</u>
Attorneys for Plaintiff

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was sent this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2022 to the following via the Court's e filing system:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
John A. Mazzei,
jmazzei@bjpc.com
dbuchanan@bjpc.com
800 Market Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, Missouri, 63101
Phone: (314) 421-3400
Fax: (314) 421-3128
Attorneys for Defendant

Fairfield Processing Corporation

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

BY: /S/ Zane T. Cagle
Zane T. Cagle; MO#53775
500 North Broadway, Suite 1605
St. Louis, MO 63102
Phone: (314) 241-1700
Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-Mail: <u>zane@caglellc.com</u>
Attorneys for Plaintiff

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWF	RENCE,	)	
	Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
VS.		)	
FAIRFIELD PROC et al.	ESSING CORPORATION,	)	
	Defendants.	)	

#### PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE SECOND AMENDED PETITION

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence (hereafter "Plaintiff") by and through her attorneys of record and for her Motion for Leave to File Second Amened Petition and states to this Honorable Court as follows:

- 1. On December 29, 2020, Plaintiff filed this lawsuit.
- 2. This action arises out of an incident on December 19, 2019, at a facility here in the City of St. Louis.
- 3. Plaintiff for the first time today (June 21, 2022) after filing a Motion to Compel against Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation learned the identity of Venture Transport, LLC (hereinafter "Venture").
- 4. Based upon information and belief Venture is a proper defendant in this case.
- 5. Plaintiff wishes to amend her Petition to add the newly discovered Defendant.
- 6. Defendants will not be prejudice if Plaintiff is granted leave to file her Second Amended Petition as no deposition have been completed and no trial setting entered in this case to date.
- 7. Plaintiff will be prejudice if not allowed to amend her Petition to add the newly discovered Defendant, Venture.

- 8. Plaintiff's proposed Second Amended Petition is attached hereto. See Plaintiff's Exhibit#1, attached hereto.
- 9. Counsel for Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation (the only defendant) has no objection to Plaintiff being granted leave to file her Second Amended Petition.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays this Court enter an order granting Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to File Second Amended Petition and for any further relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

By: /S/ Zane T. Cagle
Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775
500 North Broadway, Suite 1605
St. Louis, MO 63102
Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738 E-mail:<u>zane@caglellc.com</u> Attorneys for Plaintiff Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 388 of 418 PageID #: 393

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing was served upon the attorneys of record via electronic filing with the Clerk of this Court on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2022:

BROWN & JAMES, P.C. John A. Mazzei, jmazzei@bjpc.com dbuchanan@bjpc.com 800 Market Street, Suite 1100 St. Louis, Missouri, 63101 Phone: (314) 421-3400

Fax: (314) 421-3128
Attorneys for Defendant

Fairfield Processing Corporation

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

By: /S/ Zane T. Cagle
Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775
500 North Broadway, Suite 1605
St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700 Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail:<u>zane@caglellc.com</u>
Attorneys for Plaintiff

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# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	
Plaintiff	
vs.	) ) 
EARRIELD BROOKEGERIC CORRODATION.	) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION;	)
VENTURE TRANSPORT, LLC D/B/A	) PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL
VENTURE LOGISTICS	BY JURY ON ALL COUNTS
	)
Defendants.	)

## **SECOND AMENDED PETITION**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff") by and through by and through her attorneys of record and pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules and Rules of Civil Procedure, and for her Petition against Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), and Defendant Venture Transport, LLC d/b/a Venture Logistics ("Venture"), and states to this Honorable Court as follows:

# **FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS**

- 1. Plaintiff is an individual, citizen, and resident of Missouri.
- 2. Fairfield is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Connecticut and based upon information and belief Fairfield's principal place of business is in the State of Missouri.
- Fairfield has been properly served through its registered agent, Sanford D.
   Kaufman at 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Danbury CT, 06810.
- 4. Venture is a foreign limited liability company organized in the state of Indiana with its principal place of business located at 1101 Harding Court; Indianapolis, IN 46268.
- 5. Venture may be served through its registered agent, CSC- Lawyers Incorporating

  Service Company at 221 Bolivar Street; Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.

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- 6. The incident alleged herein occurred on or about December 19, 2019 at between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the loading dock of the premises owned and operated by Fairfield located at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri ("Premises").
- 7. As a corporation, Fairfield acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Fairfield.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Fairfield was acting individually and through its agents, servants, and/or employees, whom were acting within the course and scope of their employment with Fairfield at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 9. Venture is a corporation involved in interstate commerce, and did and does at all times alleged herein avail itself to the benefits of the State of Missouri's highways and roadways to conduct interstate commerce.
- 10. As a corporation Venture acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Venture.
- 11. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Venture was acting individually and through its agent, servant, and/or employee, whom was acting within the course and scope of his employment with Venture at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 12. Venue is proper with this Court pursuant to RSMo. § 508.010 since the negligent actions and omissions alleged herein occurred within St. Louis City, State of Missouri.

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13. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action since the incident alleged herein occurred in St. Louis City, State of Missouri.

- 14. On December 19, 2019, Fairfield owned or controlled the management of 6432 Prescott Ave.; St. Louis, Missouri 643147 ("Premises").
- 15. At all times alleged herein Plaintiff was working on said premises as an employee for ProLogistix.
- 16. At said date and time, Plaintiff was attempting to disconnect a ramp attaching a commercial vehicle owned and/or operated by Venture from the loading dock attached to Premises.
- 17. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect said ramp, she maintained one foot in the trailer attached to Venture's vehicle and the other on the dock.
- 18. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect the ramp, the driver of said commercial vehicle, and employee of Venture, ("Driver") became distracted and failed to notice that the ramp remained attached and that Plaintiff was still partially inside the vehicle.
- 19. Driver then pulled away from said dock forcing Plaintiff to leap to safety to avoid falling into the gap between the truck and the dock.
- 20. No employee of Fairfield attempted to warn Driver that Plaintiff stood partially within the trailer.
- 21. At no point did any employee of Fairfield attempt to stop Driver from pulling away from the dock.
- 22. At no point before Driver pulled away did any employee of Fairfield attempt to warn Plaintiff of the movement of the tractor trailer and/or the hazardous condition being created.

- 23. As Plaintiff leaped from the truck to the dock, she landed hyperextending her left knee and pulling and tearing the ligaments and tendons attached thereto.
- 24. As a direct result of one or more of Defendants' failures Plaintiff sustained damages.
- 25. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence alleged herein, Plaintiff, was caused to suffer serious, permanent, and disabling injuries to her left leg, knee, and the ligaments, muscles, and tendons attached thereto.
- 26. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligent acts and omissions of the Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred past medical expenses in excess of \$40,000.00.
  - 27. Plaintiff will incur further medical expenses in the future.
- 28. That Plaintiff has been caused to suffer painful, permanent and disabling injuries to the aforementioned areas of her body and will continue to suffer from these painful, permanent and disabling injuries in the future as a result of the fall as alleged herein and will need to undergo medical treatment in the future.
- 29. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff's activities and her enjoyment of life has been limited.
- 30. That as a direct and proximate cause of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff required surgical intervention.
- 31. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred scarring and disfigurement.
- 32. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has lost past wages.

33. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff will suffer future loss of wages.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

# COUNT I NEGLIGENCE AGAINST DEFENDANT VENTURE TRANSPORT, LLC

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count I of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

- 34. That the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Driver was acting in the course and scope of his employment with Venture. Thus, at the time of the crash alleged herein Driver was an agent, servant, and/or employee of Venture and as such, Venture is vicariously liable for the actions and omissions of Driver, its agent, servant, and/or employee.
- 35. At the time of this crash, Driver was an agent, servant and/or employee under the control, right of control, joint and mutual control, or joint and mutual right of control of Venture and as such all of the acts of negligence on his part were committed within the course and scope of his agency and employment with Venture.

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- 36. At the time of the incident alleged herein, Venture, through its agents, servants, and employees including, but not limited to Driver were negligent, careless, and breached their duty of care to the general public and Plaintiff on the date alleged herein in one or more of the following respects:
  - a. Failed to have the motor vehicle under proper control;
  - b. Failed to keep a proper lookout and pay attention;
  - c. Operated the tractor while distracted, tired or fatigued;
  - d. Operated the tractor without adequate training, experience, or qualifications;
  - e. Failed to notify Plaintiff and/or others before he pulled away from the dock that Plaintiff was still inside the trailer;
  - f. Drove said tractor trailer without ensuring Plaintiff was no longer in the trailer; and
  - f. Failing to exercise the highest degree of care under the circumstances.
- 37. Each of the negligent acts or omissions by Venture, as alleged herein was a direct and proximate cause of the incident and the resulting injuries and damages to Plaintiff as alleged herein.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

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# COUNT II <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANTS FAIRFIELD PROCESSING.

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count II of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

- 38. On February 17, 2019, Fairfield owned, controlled, or possessed Premises where Plaintiff worked as an independent contractor.
- 39. That at the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Fairfield oversaw the work of contracted temporary employees such as Plaintiff and held a responsibility to maintain a reasonably safe working environment.
- 40. That at the time of this incident, Fairfield, through its agents, servants, and employees:
  - a. Failed to adopt or implement policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock.
- 41. In the alternative to and/or in addition to the allegations of paragraph 40, Fairfield:
  - a. Failed to notify its employees, agents, or contractors, of any policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - b. Failed to properly supervise its employees, agents, or contractors working on the loading dock;
  - c. Failed to properly train its employees, agents, or contractors regarding any policies, procedures, or standing orders set in place to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - d. Failed to notify Driver before he pulled away from the dock that Plaintiff was still inside the trailer; and
  - e. Failed to warn Plaintiff that Driver was pulling away from the dock.

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42. That such failures and omissions created a foreseeable likelihood of a harm or

injury.

43. That in so doing, Fairfield was thereby negligent.

44. That as a direct and proximate result of such negligence, Plaintiff sustained the

damages alleged herein.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five

Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants

jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together

with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the

circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

BY: /S/ Zane T. Cagle

Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: zane@caglellc.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

)
)
)
) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
)
) PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL
BY JURY ON ALL COUNTS
)

### **SECOND AMENDED PETITION**

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fontania Lawrence ("Plaintiff") by and through by and through her attorneys of record and pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court Rules and Rules of Civil Procedure, and for her Petition against Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Fairfield"), and Defendant Venture Transport, LLC d/b/a Venture Logistics ("Venture"), and states to this Honorable Court as follows:

#### **FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS**

- 1. Plaintiff is an individual, citizen, and resident of Missouri.
- 2. Fairfield is a foreign corporation organized in the state of Connecticut and based upon information and belief Fairfield's principal place of business is in the State of Missouri.
- 3. Fairfield has been properly served through its registered agent, Sanford D. Kaufman at 301 Main Street, Third Floor, Danbury CT, 06810.
- 4. Venture is a foreign limited liability company organized in the state of Indiana with its principal place of business located at 1101 Harding Court; Indianapolis, IN 46268.
- 5. Venture may be served through its registered agent, CSC- Lawyers Incorporating Service Company at 221 Bolivar Street; Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.

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6. The incident alleged herein occurred on or about December 19, 2019 at between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the loading dock of the premises owned and operated by Fairfield located at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri ("Premises").

- 7. As a corporation, Fairfield acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Fairfield.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Fairfield was acting individually and through its agents, servants, and/or employees, whom were acting within the course and scope of their employment with Fairfield at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 9. Venture is a corporation involved in interstate commerce, and did and does at all times alleged herein avail itself to the benefits of the State of Missouri's highways and roadways to conduct interstate commerce.
- 10. As a corporation Venture acts through its officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Thus, any acts or omissions of an officer, agent, servant, and/or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by the corporation, or within the scope of the duties of said employee, is the act or omission of Venture.
- 11. At all times herein mentioned and at the time of this crash, Venture was acting individually and through its agent, servant, and/or employee, whom was acting within the course and scope of his employment with Venture at the time of the incident alleged herein.
- 12. Venue is proper with this Court pursuant to RSMo. § 508.010 since the negligent actions and omissions alleged herein occurred within St. Louis City, State of Missouri.

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13. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action since the incident alleged herein occurred in St. Louis City, State of Missouri.

- 14. On December 19, 2019, Fairfield owned or controlled the management of 6432 Prescott Ave.; St. Louis, Missouri 643147 ("Premises").
- 15. At all times alleged herein Plaintiff was working on said premises as an employee for ProLogistix.
- 16. At said date and time, Plaintiff was attempting to disconnect a ramp attaching a commercial vehicle owned and/or operated by Venture from the loading dock attached to Premises.
- 17. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect said ramp, she maintained one foot in the trailer attached to Venture's vehicle and the other on the dock.
- 18. As Plaintiff attempted to disconnect the ramp, the driver of said commercial vehicle, and employee of Venture, ("Driver") became distracted and failed to notice that the ramp remained attached and that Plaintiff was still partially inside the vehicle.
- 19. Driver then pulled away from said dock forcing Plaintiff to leap to safety to avoid falling into the gap between the truck and the dock.
- 20. No employee of Fairfield attempted to warn Driver that Plaintiff stood partially within the trailer.
- 21. At no point did any employee of Fairfield attempt to stop Driver from pulling away from the dock.
- 22. At no point before Driver pulled away did any employee of Fairfield attempt to warn Plaintiff of the movement of the tractor trailer and/or the hazardous condition being created.

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23. As Plaintiff leaped from the truck to the dock, she landed hyperextending her left knee and pulling and tearing the ligaments and tendons attached thereto.

- 24. As a direct result of one or more of Defendants' failures Plaintiff sustained damages.
- 25. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence alleged herein, Plaintiff, was caused to suffer serious, permanent, and disabling injuries to her left leg, knee, and the ligaments, muscles, and tendons attached thereto.
- 26. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligent acts and omissions of the Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred past medical expenses in excess of \$40,000.00.
  - 27. Plaintiff will incur further medical expenses in the future.
- 28. That Plaintiff has been caused to suffer painful, permanent and disabling injuries to the aforementioned areas of her body and will continue to suffer from these painful, permanent and disabling injuries in the future as a result of the fall as alleged herein and will need to undergo medical treatment in the future.
- 29. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff's activities and her enjoyment of life has been limited.
- 30. That as a direct and proximate cause of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff required surgical intervention.
- 31. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred scarring and disfigurement.
- 32. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff has lost past wages.

Electronically Filed - City of St. Louis - June 22, 2022 - 12:32 PM

33. That as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff will suffer future loss of wages.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants iointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

## COUNT I **NEGLIGENCE** AGAINST DEFENDANT VENTURE TRANSPORT, LLC

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count I of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

- 34. That the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Driver was acting in the course and scope of his employment with Venture. Thus, at the time of the crash alleged herein Driver was an agent, servant, and/or employee of Venture and as such, Venture is vicariously liable for the actions and omissions of Driver, its agent, servant, and/or employee.
- At the time of this crash, Driver was an agent, servant and/or employee under the 35. control, right of control, joint and mutual control, or joint and mutual right of control of Venture and as such all of the acts of negligence on his part were committed within the course and scope of his agency and employment with Venture.

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- 36. At the time of the incident alleged herein, Venture, through its agents, servants, and employees including, but not limited to Driver were negligent, careless, and breached their duty of care to the general public and Plaintiff on the date alleged herein in one or more of the following respects:
  - a. Failed to have the motor vehicle under proper control;
  - b. Failed to keep a proper lookout and pay attention;
  - c. Operated the tractor while distracted, tired or fatigued;
  - d. Operated the tractor without adequate training, experience, or qualifications;
  - e. Failed to notify Plaintiff and/or others before he pulled away from the dock that Plaintiff was still inside the trailer;
  - f. Drove said tractor trailer without ensuring Plaintiff was no longer in the trailer; and
  - f. Failing to exercise the highest degree of care under the circumstances.
- 37. Each of the negligent acts or omissions by Venture, as alleged herein was a direct and proximate cause of the incident and the resulting injuries and damages to Plaintiff as alleged herein.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

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# <u>COUNT II</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> <u>AGAINST DEFENDANTS FAIRFIELD PROCESSING.</u>

COMES NOW Plaintiff, and for Count II of her Petition restates, realleges, and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-33 above and in addition thereto states to the Court as follows:

- 38. On February 17, 2019, Fairfield owned, controlled, or possessed Premises where Plaintiff worked as an independent contractor.
- 39. That at the time of the incident and at all times alleged herein, Fairfield oversaw the work of contracted temporary employees such as Plaintiff and held a responsibility to maintain a reasonably safe working environment.
- 40. That at the time of this incident, Fairfield, through its agents, servants, and employees:
  - a. Failed to adopt or implement policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock.
- 41. In the alternative to and/or in addition to the allegations of paragraph 40, Fairfield:
  - Failed to notify its employees, agents, or contractors, of any policies, procedures, or standing orders to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - b. Failed to properly supervise its employees, agents, or contractors working on the loading dock;
  - c. Failed to properly train its employees, agents, or contractors regarding any policies, procedures, or standing orders set in place to avoid injuries while loading or unloading tractor-trailers in the loading dock;
  - d. Failed to notify Driver before he pulled away from the dock that Plaintiff was still inside the trailer; and
  - e. Failed to warn Plaintiff that Driver was pulling away from the dock.

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42. That such failures and omissions created a foreseeable likelihood of a harm or

injury.

43. That in so doing, Fairfield was thereby negligent.

44. That as a direct and proximate result of such negligence, Plaintiff sustained the

damages alleged herein.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for a judgment in a sum in excess of Twenty-Five

Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as determined fair and reasonable by a jury against Defendants

jointly and severally, all interest allowed under Missouri law at the maximum amount, together

with all taxable costs and for such other relief this Court deems just and proper under the

circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CAGLE LAW FIRM

BY: /S/ Zane T. Cagle

Zane T. Cagle, MO#53775

500 North Broadway, Suite 1605

St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: (314) 241-1700

Fax: (314) 241-1738

E-mail: zane@caglellc.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

22 <sup>NO</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE	
BY DEPUT	1

EONEANIA I AMBENICE		BY	DEPU
FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)		
Plaintiff,	)	Cause No.: 2022-CC10591	
VS.	)		
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION	) N )		
Defendants.	)		

### <u>ORDER</u>

COMES NOW Plaintiff and calls for hear her Motion for Leave to File Second Amended Petition. Defendant has no objection to Plaintiff being granted leave to file Second Amended Petition. This this Court hereby GRANTS Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to File Second Amended Petition. Plaintiff shall file Second Amended Petition with this Court within ten (10) days.

SO ORDERD

By: Mn Mulli Honorable Judge Joan Moriarty

Date: 6/22/22

ENTERED

JUN 2 2 2022

SPB

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# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CITY STATE OF MISSOURI

FONTANIA LAWRENCE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) ) Cause No.: 2022-CC10591
FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION,	) ) )
and	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
VENTURE TRANSPORT, LLC D/B/A VENTURE LOGISTICS	) ) )
Defendants.	)

# <u>DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION'S</u> <u>ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S SECOND AMENDED PETITION</u>

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), by and through counsel, and for its Answer to Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, states as follows:

# FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 1 of Plaintiff's
   Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 2. Defendant admits it is a foreign corporation organized in the State of Connecticut with its principal place of business in the State of Connecticut. Defendant denies the remaining allegation in paragraph 2 of Plaintiff's First Amended Petition.
- 3. Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 4. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 4 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

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5. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 5 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

- 6. Defendant admits that on or about December 19, 2019, it leased, operated, and conducted business at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63147 ("Premises"), which contained a loading dock. Defendant denies the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 6 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 7. The allegations contained in paragraph 7 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 7, and therefore denies same.
- 8. The allegations contained in paragraph 8 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 8, and therefore denies same.
- 9. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 9 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 10. The allegations contained in paragraph 10 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without

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sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 10, and therefore denies same.

- 11. The allegations contained in paragraph 11 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits as a general matter that alleged acts or omissions of an officer or employee, made while acting in the scope of authority delegated by a corporation, or within the scope of duties of an employee, are generally considered the alleged acts or omissions of the corporation. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 11, and therefore denies same.
- 12. The allegations contained in paragraph 12 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies same.
- 13. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 13 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 14. Defendant admits that on or about December 19, 2019, it leased and controlled the operation of its business at 6432 Prescott Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63147 ("Premises"). Defendant denies the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 14 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 15. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix pursuant to a contract between Defendant and ProLogistix. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 15, and therefore denies same.
- 16. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 16 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

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17. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 17 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

- 18. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 18 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 19. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 19 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 20. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 20 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 21. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 21 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 22. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny paragraph 22 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.
- 23. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 23 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 24. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 24 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 25. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 25 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 26. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 26 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 27. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 27 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 28. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 28 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.

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29. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 29 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.

- 30. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 30 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 31. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 31 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 32. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 32 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 33. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 33 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.

# <u>COUNT I</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANT VENTURE TRANSPORT, LLC

This Defendant makes no Answer to the allegations contained in Count I of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition for the reason that Count I is directed against Defendant Venture Transport, LLC, against whom judgment is prayed and no judgment is prayed against this Defendant. However, should it be construed that any of the allegations in Count I are directed against this Defendant, then this Defendant denies each and every one of those allegations.

# <u>COUNT II</u> <u>NEGLIGENCE</u> AGAINST DEFENDANT FAIRFIELD PROCESSING

COMES NOW Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation ("Defendant"), and for Count II of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, hereby incorporates its responses to paragraphs 1-33 as if fully stated herein, and states as follows:

38. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, it leased, possessed, and controlled the operation of its business at the Premises, where Plaintiff was an employee of

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ProLogistix pursuant to a contract between Defendant and ProLogistix. Defendant has insufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 38 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and therefore denies same.

- 39. Defendant admits that on or about December 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working on the Premises as an employee of ProLogistix pursuant to a contract between Defendant and ProLogistix. The remaining allegations contained in paragraph 39 are legal conclusions and require no response. To the extent a response is required, Defendant admits its duties are determined by Missouri law.
- 40. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 40 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, and all subparts thereto.
- 41. Defendant denies the allegations contained in subparts a, b, and c of paragraph 42. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 41 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition, including subparts d and e, and therefore denies same.
- 42. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 42 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 43. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 43 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.
- 44. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 44 of Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition.

#### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

1. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that Plaintiff's Second Amended Petition fails to state a claim.

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2. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries were sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were the direct and proximate result of Plaintiff's carelessness, negligence, and/or comparative fault.

- 3. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that whatever injuries sustained by Plaintiff, if any, were caused by or contributed to be caused by other individuals, entities, or parties outside this Defendant's control.
- 4. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that pursuant to §490.715 R.S.Mo, effective August 28, 2017, Plaintiff is limited to introduce at trial only the evidence of the actual cost of medical care, which is defined as the sum of money not to exceed the dollar amounts paid by or on behalf of Plaintiff plus any remaining dollar amount necessary to satisfy the financial obligation for medical care by a health care provider after adjustments or contractual discounts, price reductions, or write-offs by any person or entity.
- 5. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that Plaintiff's claims are barred by the exclusive provisions of the Workers' Compensation Statutes of the State of Missouri and, further, Plaintiff was a statutory employee of this Defendant at the time of the incident in accordance with the applicable statutes and case law that Plaintiff was on Defendant's premises for the purpose of performing duties and acts which would have been performed by Defendant's own employees if it had not been for a contract of services between Defendant and Plaintiff's employer and, therefore, Plaintiff's action is barred and the Court does not have subject matter jurisdiction over this action.
- 6. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant states that pursuant to §537.067 R.S.Mo (amended 2005), if Defendant is found to bear less than fifty-one percent (51%) of fault, then Defendant shall only be responsible for the percentage of the judgment for which Defendant

is determined to be responsible by the trier of fact, if any, and Defendant will not be liable for the

fault of another Defendant or for payment of the proportionate share of another Defendant.

7. For further Answer and affirmative defense, Defendant reserves the right to rely upon

such other additional defenses as may become available or appear subsequently in this case,

including during the course of discovery proceedings, and hereby reserves the right to amend this

Answer to assert any such defenses.

WHEREFORE, having fully answered and responded to Plaintiff's Second Amended

Petition, Defendant Fairfield Processing Corporation prays to be dismissed with its cost herein

expended, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

**BROWN & JAMES, P.C.** 

/s/ John A. Mazzei

John A. Mazzei, MO # 51398

jmazzei@bjpc.com

800 Market Street, Suite 1100

St. Louis, Missouri, 63101

(314) 421-3400

(314) 421-3128 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT

FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION

Electronically Filed - City of St. Louis - July 01, 2022 - 01:59 PM

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2022, the foregoing was electronically filed using the Missouri eFiling system, which will send notice of electronic filing to all registered attorneys of record. I further certify that pursuant to Rule 55.03(a), I signed the original of the foregoing and that the original signed copy is maintained at our office.

/s/ John A. Mazzei

JAM 27811215.1 Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 415 of 418 PageID #: 420



### IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-CC10591	
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE  vs.	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address ZANE THOMAS CAGLE THE CAGLE LAW FIRM 500 N BROADWAY STE 1605 ST LOUIS, MO 63102	
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Nature of Suit: CC Pers Injury-Other	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING 10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101 Please see the attached information for appearing via WebEx. WebEx connection information may also be found at <a href="http://www.stlcitycircuitcourt.com/">http://www.stlcitycircuitcourt.com/</a>	
		(Date File Stamp)

#### **Summons in Civil Case**

The State of Missouri to: VENTURE TRANSPORT, LLC

Alias:

CSC LAWYERS INCORPORATING SERV 221 BOLIVAR STREET

JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

COLE COUNTY, MO

COURT SEAL OF

CITY OF ST LOUIS

You are summoned to appear before this court and to file your pleading to the petition, a copy of which is attached, and to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney for plaintiff/petitioner at the above address all within 30 days after receiving this summons, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

\*\*\*Due to COVID19 challenges, virtual appearances by Webex.com are also required until further order of this Court. \*\*\*

If you have a disability requiring special assistance for your court appearance, please contact the court at least 48 hours in advance of scheduled hearing.

August 17, 2022	Thomas Playpunger
Date	Clerk
Further Information:	

Case: 4:22-cy-	00985-SRC Doc	#: 1-1 Filed: 09/20	/22 Page: 4	16 of 418 PageID	#: 421
		Sheriff's or Server's Re	turn	3	
_		eturned to the court within 30	days after the da	ate of issue.	
I certify that I have serve		• •			
☐ delivering a copy of the	he summons and petition	n to the defendant/responde	ent.	of the defendant/reason	dont with
☐ leaving a copy of the	summons and petition a	at the dwelling house or usu , a persor,	ai piace of abode s at least 18 vears	of the defendant/respon-	dent with
(for service on a corp	oration) delivering a cor	by of the summons and petit	ion to:	or age residing therein.	
		(name)			(title).
in	(County/	City of St. Louis), MO, on $\_$		(date) at	(time).
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	wy commission expire	Date	-	Notary Public	<del></del>
Sheriff's Fees, if applical	ble			·	
Summons	\$				
Non Est	\$				
Sheriff's Deputy Salary					
Supplemental Surcharge	\$ <u>10.00</u>				
Mileage	\$	( miles @ \$	per mile)		
Total	\$				
		ed on <b>each</b> defendant/respo	ndent. For metho	ds of service on all class	es of suits,
see Supreme Court Rule !	54.				



# IN THE 22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CITY OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

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Judge or Division: MICHAEL FRANCIS STELZER	Case Number: 2022-CC 10591	-6 JUGIA
Plaintiff/Petitioner: FONTANIA LAWRENCE vs.	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attcrney/Address ZANE THOMAS CAGLE THE CAGLE LAW FIRM 500 N BROADWAY STE 1605 ST LOUIS, MO 63102	AH 10: 21
Defendant/Respondent: FAIRFIELD PROCESSING CORPORATION Nature of Suit: CC Pers Injury-Other	Court Address: CIVIL COURTS BUILDING 10 N TUCKER BLVD SAINT LOUIS, MO 63101	RECEIVED
, ,	Please see the attached information for appearing via WebEx. WebEx connection information may also be found at <a href="http://www.stlcitycircuitco">http://www.stlcitycircuitco</a> <a href="http://www.stlcitycircuitco">irt.com/</a>	AUG <b>1 9</b> 2022 COLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Summons in Civil Case

The State of Missouri to: VENTURE TRANSPORT, LLC

Alias:

CSC LAWYERS INCORPORATING SERV 221 BOLIVAR STREET

JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

COURT SEAL OF



You are summoned to appear before this court and to file your pleading to the petition, a copy of which is attached, and to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney for plaintiff/petitioner at the above address all within 30 days after receiving this summons, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

(Date File Stamp)

COLE COUNTY, MO

\*\*\*Due to COVID19 challenges, virtual appearances by Webex.com are also required until further order of this Court. \*\*\*

If you have a disability requiring special ass stance for your court appearance, please contact the court at least 48 hours in advance of scheduled hearing.

Date Clerk

Case: 4:22-cv-00985-SRC Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 09/20/22 Page: 418 of 418 PageID #: 423

	Sheriff's o	r Server's Return	-	
Note to serving officer	r: Summons should be returned to the	court within 30 days afte	r the date of issue.	
I certify that I have serve	ed the above Summons by: (check or	ne)		
	the summons and petition to the defe s summons and petition at the dwelling	g house or usual place of	abode of the defendant/responde 3 years of age residing therein.	ent with
(for service on a corp	poration) delivering a copy of the sum	mons and petition to:		(title).
Served at 350 €				_(address)
	(County/City of St. Lo	ouis), MO, on	2-2022 (date) at <u></u> 800	(time).
Sherin &	on & where	b)	Signature of Sheriff or Server	
Phinted Nur	ne of Sheriff or Server	,	Signature of Sheriff or Server	
	Must be sworn before a notary publi			
(Seal)	Subscribed and sworn to before me	e on	(date).	
(/	My commission expires:			
		Date	Notary Public	
Sheriff's Fees, if applica	ble		*****	
Summons	\$			
Non Est	\$			
Sheriff's Deputy Salary				
Supplemental Surcharge	\$ <u>10.00</u>			
Mileage	\$ ( mile	es @ \$ per nile)		
Total	\$			
A copy of the summons as see Supreme Court Rule	nd petition must be served on <b>each</b> d	efendant/respondent. For	methods of service on all classes	s of suits,

